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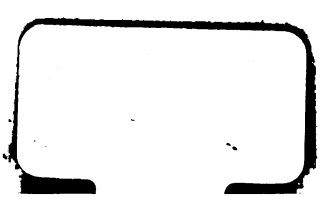
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ALABAMA AS IT IS;

OR, THE

IMMIGRANT'S & CAPITALIST'S

GUIDE BOOK TO ALABAMA.

FURNISHING THE MOST ACCURATE AND DETAILED INFORMATION CONCERNING THE VARIED ELEMENTS OF WEALTH IN ALABAMA, WHETHER OF MINE, FIELD, OR FOREST, TOGETHER WITH CAREFULLY PREPARED MAPS AND CHARTS ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE NUMEROUS ADVANTAGES POSSESSED BY THE STATE.

BY

Rev. B. F. RILEY, D. D.

ADOPTED BY THE STATE BY AN ACT APPROVED FEBRUARY 28, 1887.

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PREFACE.

ALABAMA AS IT IS, or the Immigrant's and Capitalists' Guide Book to Alabama, undertakes to meet a demand which has long existed. Valuable works upon the varied resources the State have been published, but they have not met the popular of demand for a systematic treatise, and one written in the language common to the people.

Either these works have been restricted in their treatment, or they have so abounded in technical terms, that, irrespective of the importance of the matter which they have contained, the manner of conveying it has generally been such as to make it of little interest to the average reader. It has been the aim of the author of this little work to write for the people, and to clothe every subject touched upon in such language as to make it not only interesting, but a matter of profit to the average reader. Hence, all technical terms have been eschewed. It is believed that the learned who may chance to read the book will not object to this, while the man unfamiliar with scientific phraseology will appreciate it. The volume is the result of much labor, extending through several years. To secure the most authentic information, required an extensive correspondence with reliable citizens in every county in the State, and involved much travel and research on the part of the writer. Attention is directed to the systematic arrangement of the volume.

The State is divided into four grand divisions, viz: The Cereal, Mineral, Cotton and Timber Belts. A general description of the prevailing characteristics of each belt is given, and that is followed by a description of each county in the following order: Date of formation, after whom or what named, population in 1870 and 1880, number of whites and blacks, area, number of acres of tilled land, how divided among the products, production of cotton, topography of the county, its fruits, minerals, timbers, streams,

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chief towns, railroads (finished or projected), schools, churches, prices of land, and number of acres of Government lands.

Special attention has been given the places of interest and centers of population in the State. Their advantages have been clearly pointed out, and whatever facilities they possess for future development have been fairly indicated.

Important chapters have been added upon the river ways, healthfulness, and educational system of Alabama. The two last named items are matters of important inquiry to the seekers of homes. They are entirely authentic, the chapter upon The Health of Alabama having been prepared by R. D. Webb, M. D., a native Alabamian, a gentleman of scientific research and an ex-president of the State Medical Association. The one upon The Educational System of Alabama was prepared by the recent Superintendent of Education of the State, Hon. Solomon Palmer.

The work throughout has been done with the most scrupulous and painstaking care. There has been no straining after facts, no guesswork, and no disposition to conceal the disadvantages of any section. The author begs to acknowledge his indebtedness to the latest Manual and Statistical Register of Hon. Joseph Hodgson; The Handbook of Alabama, by Saffold Berney, Esq.; The Geological Survey of Dr. Eugene A. Smith, State Geologist; and The Survey of the Warrior Coalfield, by Prof. Henry McCalley, Assistant State Geologist.

Indebtedness is also acknowledged to the many gentlemen who, from the different counties, replied with promptness to applications for information and for numerous expressions of encouragement while the work was being prosecuted. Arduous and protracted as the labor has been, it has been attended with the hope that it might contribute to the development of the resources of Alabama.

Marred as it doubtless is by defects, the little volume is sent upon the mission for which it was designed—that of guiding capitalists and seekers of homes to the investigation of the claims of Alabama.

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ALABAMA AS IT IS.

AN OLD tradition represents an Indian warrior as having grown weary of the bloody strifes of some eastern region, and as having resolved to seek a more quiet abode in the far-off land toward the setting sun. Making his way over swollen rivers and through tangled forests, he came at length to the fertile lands and clear streams of Alabama. Charmed by the tokens of plentitude and the romantic scenery, pictured in the blooming valleys, the limpid streams, the boundless plains, and the high mountains, he resolutely struck his spear into the earth, saying, "Alabama!" which, being interpreted, is said to mean, "Here we rest."

Out of the mists of this favorite tradition there looms the truth of Alabama's greatness—her inexhaustible resources of soil and mine, of field and forest, her balmy climate, her wonderful healthfulness, and her sweeps of extended beauty.

It may be safely said that no portion of the globe, of the same compass, affords a greater diversity of resources, mineral, agricultural, horticultural and otherwise, and to a greater extent, than that embraced within the limits of Alabama. Her soils have never refused to yield any production known to the Temperate Zone, while along the shores which front the warm waters of the Gulf many tropical fruits are grown with the greatest readiness. And such is the capability of the soils that they yield, usually, in vast abundance, and sometimes even to the most indolent culture.

The developments which have been going on for a period of years in the mineral districts of Alabama have established the fact that, with respect to certain ores, she leads the other States of the Union. This is most notably true respecting her vast iron

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deposits. Through the agency of capital and skill the State has come rapidly to the front as a great manufacturing centre. Side by side lie her fields of coal and her domains of iron. Thus, it will be seen, that the State has been most liberally endowed by Nature with all the conditions favorable to manufacture and agriculture. The profusion of her elements for the manufactory is simply marvelous, and her cotton fields have won a distinction that is world-wide. The staple grown upon Alabama cotton fields commands a dominant price in the markets of the world. Throughout the entire length of the territory, from the utmost northern limits to the waters of the Mexican Gulf, there are found the resources of a great commonwealth.

The magnificent wheat and corn valleys that lie along the base of the Cumberlands, or that follow the windings of the Tennessee; the high hills, with their treasures of ore; the orchards of delicious fruit; the plains of snowy cotton; the illimitable forests of giant timber, which have, for so many years, contributed to the lumber markets of the globe, and the groves of orange that dot her southern shores—all these attest the greatness of Alabama's resources.

POSITION.

Alabama lies one-fourth the way around the globe west from Paris, France, and is in the same latitude as Northern Africa, Palestine, Central China, and Southern Japan.

OUTLINE.

The boundaries of Alabama may be described in the following manner: Beginning where the parallel of thirty-one degrees north latitude crosses the Perdido river; thence eastward with this parallel to the west bank of the Chattahooche river; thence northward along the west bank of the last named river to the great bend, next above the mouth of Uchee creek, in Russell county; thence in a direct line toward the town of Nickajack, on the Tennessee river, to the parallel of thirty-five degrees north latitude; thence west along this parallel, to its second intersection with the thread, or middle line, of the Tennessee river; thence up the river to the mouth of Big Bear creek, thence in a line to a point on Buckatunna Creek, where the old Choctaw boundary-line inter-

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sects the same; thence in a line to a point on the coast of the Gulf of Mexico, ten miles east from the mouth of the Pascagoula river; thence eastward along said coast, and embracing all islands within eighteen miles of the shore, to the mouth of the Perdido river; thence up the thread of this stream to the point of beginning.

AREA.

The State has an area of 50,722 square miles, which renders it larger than New York, Rhode Island, and Delaware combined. When measured from east to west, the general width of the State is 175 miles, while its estimated length from north to south is 275 miles.

POPULATION.

The increase of population has been so rapid within the last few years that it is difficult to state just now what it is. According to the census of 1880, it was 1,262,505. It will scarcely fall short of one and one-half millions now.

GENERAL TOPOGRAPHY.

The termination of the Appalachian mountain chain in Northern Alabama renders that portion of the State rough and rugged, but there are no mountains of any considerable height. The elevations rarely exceed 2,000 feet above the sea level.

In Central Alabama there are found prevailing the foothills of these northern ranges, together with the rolling prairies, and the upper belt of the pine barrens. In the Southern portion of the State there is a gentle slope along a sandy coast plain to the waters of the Gulf.

EXTENT OF SEA-COAST.

Alabama has about sixty miles of sea-coast.

SOILS.

The soils of this State are of every possible variety, ranging, in point of fertility, from the thinnest sandy land to the richest alluvial. Along the sand mountains in the north, as well as along the southern shore, the soils are thin, but by no means sterile,

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while the famous Tennessee valley and the canebrake regions of Central and Southern Alabama have depths of marvelous fertility.

CLIMATE.

Favored in many respects, Alabama is, perhaps, most highly favored in her superb climate. Such is the temperature of the State that the extremes of heat and cold never prevail. The influence of the mountains in the northern end of the State tones into blandness the heat of summer, while for many miles inland, the cool breezes of the waters of the Gulf fan away the sultry breath of summertide. Snow but seldom falls, and only thin coatings of ice are seen. The exceptions to this statement are exceedingly rare. The streams of Alabama are not frozen over. Flowers blossom, fruits ripen, and vegetables prevail almost the year round. The mean annual temperature of the State is sixty-one degrees; the mercury but rarely ranges above ninety-five degrees even in July—the hottest month of the year. During the heated term the mercury ranges from sixty degrees to one hundred and four degrees; and during the cold season, from eighteen degrees to eighty-two degrees.

The question is frequently asked by Europeans and Northerners, "Can white men labor under a summer's sun in the States of the South?" The answer is found in the fact that thousands of white men do labor beneath the suns of the South, even as far down as Florida. And in addition to this, it may be said that white men labor with remarkable success in midsummer in the Northern States, where the heat is greater, and the days longer; and what is there to prevent them laboring in the South, where there is less heat, and the days are shorter, and the nights of more refreshing coolness. Observations on temperature, made by scientists since 1819, have been preserved in the Smithsonian Institution, and from time to time published. Of late years, these reports have been transmitted by its secretary to the Agricultural Bureau, and have been embodied in its report. From an examination of these tables, and a careful comparison, it will be seen that the climate is more favorable for the laboring man in the South than in the North. True, the Northern summer is short—much shorter than in the South—but it is much hotter

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while it lasts. In one of his reports, Professor Henry, of the Smithsonian Institution, states this fact, in the following way: "For, though there is absolutely more heat in the latitude of New Orleans, during the year, than at Madison, Wisconsin, yet there is more heat received at this latter place during the three months of midsummer than in the same time at the former place."

Of the whole number of laborers now employed in the South in the tillage of cotton, it is estimated that fully one-fourth are white men.

NATURAL DIVISIONS.

So marked are the differences between the several sections of the State, that it is susceptible of four grand divisions, each of which possesses a dominating characteristic. These sections will be called the Cereal, Mineral, Cotton, and Timber Belts of Alabama.

THE CEREAL BELT.

This section extends across the northern boundary of the State from east to west, and embraces the famous Valley of the Tennessee and its tributaries. It comprises eight counties, viz: Lauderdale, Limestone, Madison, Jackson, Marshall, Morgan, Lawrence, and Colbert. The general surface of this region is even, but occasional projections of the Cumberland spurs break the prevailing uniformity. The soil is quite fertile, being usually of a reddish cast. This reddish hue in the soil is due to the mixture of iron in the sandstone. While this section is distinguished as the Cereal Belt because of its marvelous yield of grain and grasses, still these are not the exclusive productions of the counties which have already been mentioned under this head. For many years cotton has been extensively raised upon these famous red lands, and is to-day rivaling the cereals in its production. But cereals thrive in this tier of counties in the richest profusion, and, as a consequence, the raising of stock is quite easy and profitable. Corn, wheat, oats, barley and rye are the chief productions of the Cereal Belt. The hardier fruits grow here to great perfection. Pears, apples, peaches and grapes are produced in great abundance every year. For several years past

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there has been a growing disposition on the part of farmers of this section to devote more time to stock-raising. This has necessarily induced the production of clovers and grasses, and thus there has sprung up a new branch of industry. The improvement of breeds and the enlargement of herds are on the increase from year to year.

THE TENNESSEE VALLEY.

THE GREAT Valley of the Tennessee sweeps directly through the cereal section. This valley is, by odds, the most charming region in all the State. So impressed was a competent and impartial judge with its grandeur that he pronounced it the most lovely region upon which his eyes had ever rested. He had seen all the splendid regions of land whose fertility and beauty had made them famous throughout the United States; he had beheld the plains of Texas, when clad in their vernal loveliness; the plains of Illinois, the bluegrass regions of Kentucky, the Miami Valley of Ohio, the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia, the Genesee Valley of New York, and yet he regarded the beautiful Valley of the Tennessee the loveliest of all. It is divided in twain by the magnificent river of the same name, and extends the distance of well nigh 200 miles. Its average width is about twenty miles. It reaches from Georgia on the east to Mississippi on the west. In its native fertility, its soil is unsurpassed. It is a goodly land, well watered with springs and fountains and flashing streams, which gush out in icy coldness from beneath the hills and mountains. It is walled in by mountain ranges, both on the north and south, which protect it alike from the cold blasts of winter and the hot waves of summer. Along the south side of the valley and within twenty-five miles of the Tennessee River, lies the famous Warrior coalfield. Skirting the northern edge of this coalfield, in the foothills of the mountains, are to be found some of the most magnificent developments of iron ore known to the State. And along the bosom of the valley itself are to be found limestone of almost every conceivable variety, many of them being of the purest quality.

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On the northern edge of the valley, near its eastern termination in Walker county, are to be found all those beds of coal which are developed upon the plateaus of the Cumberland Mountains in Tennessee. In the mountains, on the opposite side of the valley, are to be found the coal measures of the Warrior coal field.

At the experimental station of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Alabama, established in North Alabama some years ago in order to test the capabilities of the soil and illustrate the productiveness of different crops, it was fully demonstrated that clover and timothy, herd, orchard and blue grass, could be quite as successfully grown in this section of Alabama as in the most favored regions of Kentucky. This, together with the spontaneity with which wild grasses and clovers spring and thrive, fully establish the fact that it is a region admirably adapted to stock raising.

Near the town of Courtland, in Lawrence county, is to be seen the splendid residence of Colonel Saunders, who has one of the most magnificent vineyards on the continent. It embraces almost every variety of grape known to American fruit growers, and the development attained by the fruit is perfect.

Near the western terminus of the valley is to be found a bed of oolitic limestone, which is extensively used in Memphis for ornamental marble work From the fragments is manufactured first-class lime, which is shipped to the principal cities along the Mississippi River.

Upon the uncleared lands in the valley, and along the banks of the Tennessee River and its tributaries, as well as along the slopes of the neighboring mountains and foothills, are to be found magnificent forests of timber, comprising the noblest specimens of oak, walnut, poplar, hickory, and indeed all of the hard woods; while the undergrowth abounds in dogwood and pawpaw.

Near the western end of the valley, on its southern side and that section which is now penetrated by the new railroad from Sheffield to Birmingham, are to be found some of the most extensive beds of brown iron ore of the purest quality.

Thus, in this brief sketch, will be seen an aggregation of the advantages possessed by the famous Valley of the Tennessee.

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Let us now turn our attention directly to the counties of the Cereal Belt, every one of which is found in the Valley of the Tennessee.

LAUDERDALE COUNTY.

LAUDERDALE county is situated in the northwestern corner of Alabama, and is joined on two sides by the States of Mississippi and Tennessee. It was one of the first sections of Alabama settled by the whites, and was organized as a county before the State was constituted. It was established in 1818, and named for the famous Indian fighter, Col. Lauderdale, of Tennessee. As has been fully indicated by the description given of the Tennessee Valley, Lauderdale is located in one of the most fertile regions in the State. It has an area of about seven hundred square miles.

Population in 1880, 21,035; population in 1890, 23,739; white, 16,697; colored, 7,092.

Tilled Land—Area planted in cotton, 25,082 acres; in corn, 39,239 acres; in oats, 2,995 acres; in wheat, 729 acres; in rye, 42 acres; in tobacco, 1 acre; cotton production, 5,156 bales.

Lauderdale has a diversity of soil, as is abundantly indicated in the variety of crops grown. In the northern portion of the county the surface is somewhat more uneven than is that in the southern end. The prevailing soil in the northern portion is of a grayish hue, but yields quite readily. In the south the lands are reddish in character. This is due to the presence of iron. These lands are quite fertile, and though some of them have been in cultivation seventy-five years, they are still productive without the aid of fertilizers. West of Florence, in a great bend of the Tennessee River, is a large body of valley land, known as the Colbert Reservation. It is overspread in different directions by some of the finest farms found in this section of Alabama. These valley lands, when fresh, will produce as much as one thousand pounds of seed cotton to the acre. The most of the cotton grown in the county is raised upon the red valley lands, and the product per acre is considerably above the average.

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The chief crops of the county are cotton, corn, wheat, oats, sorghum, and sweet potatoes. Apples and peaches are grown in vast quantities in the orchards. These are the chief fruits, though other fruits are grown with success when they receive proper attention. This is especially true of the grape. Wild fruits such as hickorynuts and berries grow in large quantities.

At St. Florian, six miles north of Florence, a flourishing German colony illustrates admirably the adaptability of the county to the purposes of the fruit grower and truck farmer. The colony contains several hundred persons. Few of their holdings exceed fifty or eighty acres. But by a system of intensive farming they make these to blossom and fruit like a garden. There is no more worthy or thrifty population to be found in Alabama than these Germans. At this point the grape is found in perfection. Large quantities of wine, of excellent quality, is made every season.

The chief pursuits of the people are farming, stock-raising, and manufacturing, to all of which the county is admirably adapted. For many years, the single pursuit was that of planting; but the superb water-power of the county, and the abundant fuel, suggested the establishment of manufactories long before the beginning of the war. Cotton and wool factories were accordingly established, as well as manufactories of leather.

At this period Lauderdale was, perhaps, in advance of any other portion of the State in its manufactories. It is believed to be the pioneer county in establishing manufacturing interests. But these industries perished amid the ravages of war, and have been but partially resuscitated. The Cypress Mills, near Florence, have been partially rebuilt, and a cotton factory has been established on Cypress Creek, and is now being successfully operated by water. There is a large and flourishing corn and flour mill in the town of Florence. The county is abundantly supplied with perpetual streams of water. Shoal, Cypress, Blue Water, Bluff and Second Creeks flow through the county from the north.

Skirting the southwestern boundary of the county is Elk river. Besides these, there are many bold mountain springs, containing both limestone and freestone water. There are springs in several parts of the county that have medicinal properties, the most noted

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of these being Bailey's Springs, but a short distance from the town of Florence; though Taylor's Springs have a local reputation.

In every part of the county are to be found local industries, such as gins, and grist and saw mills.

There are forests of valuable timber in every part of Lauderdale. These comprise several varieties of oak, poplar, chestnut, beech, hickory, walnut, cherry, and short-leaf pine. The forests, in many places, are heavily wooded with these valuable timbers. Facilities for transportation of products to market are already good, but are destined to be greatly increased at no remote period.

A railroad unites Florence, the county-seat, with the Memphis & Charleston Railroad at Tuscumbia. Packets ply the year around on the Tennessee River between Florence and Cincinnati, St. Louis, Louisville and Evansville. The completion of the Muscle Shoals Canal in 1892, by the Government, opened the upper Tennessee for hundreds of miles. Recognizing the importance of this location, railroad men are projecting different lines and systems in this direction. The Nashville & Florence Railroad was built from Columbia, Tennessee, to Florence, Alabama, in 1890. This is part of the Louisville & Nashville system. Another important line is expected soon to be in active operation between Clarksville, Tennessee, and Florence. When this and other perfected lines shall have reached completion, Lauderdale county will possess facilities for transportation equal to those of any other county.

The educational advantages of the county are superior. In the town of Florence, there are two schools of a high grade—the State Normal College for which there is an adequate annual appropriation, and the Synodical Female College. Both of these institutions of learning have superior faculties, and the schools are liberally patronized. Throughout the entire county there are good local schools, affording all the educational facilities necessary for common school instruction. These schools are supported by all the moral influence that comes of long established and well-regulated society. The people are law-abiding and thrifty, and the tone of society is elevating.

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In the northern portion of the county, adjoining the State of Tennessee, as well as in the western portion of the county, are to be found excellent deposits of iron ore. The extent of the prevalence of this ore is not known, as it has been only partially developed. In the southwestern part of Lauderdale is a valuable cave of saltpetre. Indications of petroleum and natural gas abound. At this writing, a strong company is erecting machinery in the northern part of the county, preparatory to sinking several wells. This work is in the hands of experts, from the oil and gas districts of Pennsylvania. It is located upon Elk River.

The chief towns of the county are Florence, the county-seat, —with a population of 6,000—Lexington, Rodgersville and Waterloo.

FLORENCE

excels all other places for beauty of location. One hundred and fifty feet above high water, on a gently rolling plateau sloping toward the river, excellent drainage, pure and salubrious atmosphere, springs of pure water on every side; the view in every direction is grand and picturesque, with the magnificent Tennessee River flowing at its base, navigable for the largest class of steamboats, with packet lines to St. Louis, Cincinnati, Evansville, and Paducah. Through the Muscle Shoals Canal now open communication is had by boat with Chattanooga and Knoxville.

There is no healthier spot in all the land. The records show a total exemption from malarious diseases. Indeed, the mild temperature, pure air and water, and good society, make Florence a desirable resort, both summer and winter, from the extreme heat of the South and the rigorous cold of the North.

The Memphis & Charleston, Sheffield & Birmingham, and Nashville & Florence railroads, with their connection, afford quick and direct communication with every part of the country, and when several other railroads now projected, and some in course of construction are completed, Florence, on the Tennessee River, must become a great distributing point of the commerce of the South.

The State Normal College, Florence Synodical Female College, and Mars Hill Academy, besides the public and private schools,

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afford every facility for educating the white children, and there are two excellent schools for colored children, taught by their own people.

The State Normal College, above referred to, is the oldest and strongest of the State's institutions for the training of teachers. Established in 1873, from the first it took high rank. Its annual attendance is some 300 or over. Its graduates enjoy an enviable reputation throughout the State. Recognizing the merits of this institution, the trustees of the Peabody Education Fund liberally supplement the annual appropriation made by the State.

Methodist, Presbyterian, Baptist, Episcopal, Catholic and Christian denominations have churches, or places of worship where regular services are held. The Cumberland Presbyterians are preparing to build a church. In no town can greater harmony or better Christian feeling be found than among the churches of Florence.

The State, county and corporation taxes are low. The county and town owe no debts, and generally have a surplus in the treasury. Manufacturing companies are exempt from city taxes for a period of years.

Within twenty miles north of Florence are immense beds of brown hematite iron ore, which yield from 54 to 60 per cent. of metal. The phosphorus in this ore is so little that the best experts in iron-making say by the Bessemer process it can be converted into steel from the furnace at a cost of $3.00 less than steel can be made at any furnace in the Ohio Valley. Steel nails can be made at twenty-five cents less cost, per keg, than at Wheeling, or any other of the great nail factories in Ohio or Pennsylvania. The Nashville & Florence Railroad, just completed, connects Florence with these ore beds.

The ore at Birmingham is the red variety, and they send twenty miles north of Florence to St. Joe for the brown ore to mix with the red to produce a better grade of metal, but the brown ore makes a fine grade of metal without mixing. The "Muscle Shoals" Canal, above Florence on the river, was completed in 1892. This will give Florence direct communication also with the steel-making ores of East Tennessee and the immense coal fields below Chattanooga on the river, containing coal in veins

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from thirty to sixty inches in thickness, thus furnishing coal and iron almost without limit to supply the furnaces, rolling mills, and other industries locating there.

In the fierce competition which has now commenced in the production of cheap iron, Florence, on the Tennessee, by virtue of her proximity to other ores not found in other localities, possesses advantages which cannot be equaled.

The Tennessee River is the basal line of the future iron industries centering in the coal and iron region which it penetrates, giving the cheapest transportation and abundant water supply for steam manufacturing. Florence, owing to her remarkable geographical location, will necessarily concentrate the bulk of the industries along the line of this great waterway, the Ohio, Tennessee, and Mississippi Valleys, opening up an immense territory for the exportation of the manufactured products and importation in exchange.

We, therefore, submit to a candid public these incontrovertible facts:

1. Iron can be made more cheaply and profitably in Alabama than elsewhere in the United States.

2. Pig iron can be manufactured at Florence at from one to two dollars less cost per ton than at any other point in the State.

3. Iron can be transported to St. Louis from Florence at one dollar per ton, or less.

4. Limestone, in exhaustible quantities, is found at Florence.

5. It requires two to three tons of red hematite to produce one ton of pig metal. One and one-half tons of brown hematite yield one ton pig.

6. Florence is nearer by rail to all parts of Alabama, Georgia, Eastern Mississippi, South Carolina, and Florida, and considerable part of East Tennessee, than any point on the Tennessee River. By means of short lines of railroad Florence is destined to become the supply depot—the distributing point for western produce—for all that vast area of country, and her water transportation to the Mississippi, Missouri, and Ohio Valleys guarantees cheap transportation at all times to the principal markets of the country.

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The coal fields of Alabama cover an area of 5,000 square miles, and are south of Florence, within easy reach. They are now reached by the Sheffield & Birmingham, the Louisville & Nashville, and the Mobile & Ohio Railroads. In a short time another railroad will be built direct from Florence through the entire Warrior coal measures. Coal is also obtained from East Tennessee by the Memphis & Charleston Railroad and in barges by the river. Another source of supply is by the Louisville & Nashville from the Kentucky mines.

To the south of Florence, in Walker county, are the vast Warrior coal fields. To one unacquainted with the geology of Alabama a true description of the quality and vast extent of these coal fields would sound like the wild dream of fancy.

Mark this: In his last annual report our State Geologist says: "Allowing 1,000,000 tons of coal per square mile for every foot in thickness, the sum total of coal in the workable seams within Walker county is, according to the above estimate, about 10,600,000,000 tons, which would form a solid block of coal ten miles long by ten miles wide by one hundred feet high. Granting, for various reasons, one-half of this coal of the workable seams of Walker county is not available, which is a most liberal discount for every imaginable cause, there will still remain 5,300,000,000 tons of *mineable coal*, which, with a daily output of 5,000 tons, cannot be exhausted in 3,000 years. The workable coal of Walker county may, therefore, be said to be practically inexhaustible so far as we are concerned. As a class these coals are bituminous coals, and they burn freely and are well suited for gas-making."

So much for Florence as a theoretical seat of iron manufactory. Now for the facts: The Cotton & Iron Co., a Philadelphia corporation, has now in operation one of the largest and most complete blast furnaces in the South. The daily output is about 150 tons, that grades Nos. 1 and 2 foundry. Sometime ago a Pittsburgh paper stated that this furnace was making pig at a cost of $8.65 per ton, which is probably approximately correct.

The North Alabama furnace has been leased to the Spathite Iron Co., a Nashville corporation. This company proposes to use the ores found in certain beds near the northern boundary of the county, known as Spathite ores. These ores contain a suffi-

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cient quantity of carbonates to flux them, in addition to the ores to be combined with them. This plant has been put in first-class condition, and will go into blast by the 1st of April.

The country north of Florence, in Wayne and Lawrence counties, Tennessee, is practically in its primeval state so far as the timber is concerned. Immense poplar, white oak, maple, hickory, pine, cherry, walnut, and chestnut-oak trees cover the hills and valleys, and can be had at very low figures.

Immense forests of chestnut-oak in the mountain counties, contiguous to the railroads, can be purchased at from $2 to $3 per acre.

Quarries of beautiful marble are found in a few miles of Florence in close proximity to the railroad. Building stone, limestone and sandstone are found all over the country.

The great variety of pure clay suitable for making firebrick, earthenware, pottery, tableware, building brick, tiling, etc., can be found in close proximity.

In no country do the lands give to the intelligent and industrious farmer a more sure and profitable return for the labor bestowed. There is always a good average crop—never an entire failure. The lands are adapted to cotton, corn, tobacco, oats and other small grain, and every variety of grasses. Springs of water and clear creeks with gravel bottoms can be found upon almost every farm. Lands are cheap. Improved farms can be bought at $8 to $20 per acre.

The vast area of open lands north of Florence afford excellent grazing for cattle and sheep for nine months of the year.

The country roads are good and firm, and kept in good condition.

The people are hospitable and kind. Northern people will meet with no jealousies or indignities. The animosities of the war are all buried and nearly forgotten. Very little of politics are ever mentioned, and no man is ostracised because of his political sentiments. A man is esteemed according to his moral, intellectual and industrial worth—not for his political sentiments.

Within the last few years there have been located in Florence—

Three saw mills; four brick yards; water-works; one electric light; one pump factory; three planing mills; one steam laundry,

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one street railroad; one handle factory; one cotton compress; one furniture factory; one large stove foundry; one shoe and boot factory; one cracker and candy factory; one building and loan association; three lumber and contracting companies; one wooden dish factory (capacity, 75,000 daily).

The Cheny Cotton Mills recently located, are now in process of construction. This company has a capital stock of $200,000, and will operate about 15,000 spindles.

The Memphis & Charleston R. R. Co. is replacing the wooden bridge with a massive iron structure, which will be completed during the year.

Though the population is rapidly increasing with the location of manufacturing there, and the attraction of capital and enterprise to the place, values of real estate are low, and rich returns will surely follow the investment of capital there now. Houses are in demand, and those built for rental are rented before completed. Good lots can be had at $5 and $10 per front foot.

All desiring to move South are invited to come and investigate. The Florence Land, Mining and Manufacturing Company will take pleasure in answering fully all letters of inquiry, but a personal visit and full inspection of the advantages and resources of the place are asked, and is much more satisfactory, and a cordial welcome will be extended to all who come, and they will be shown around and given every means of satisfying themselves. In the selection of a business location a pleasant home is also desirable, and no place in the South offers more pleasure and comfort in this respect than Florence, with her warm-hearted, hospitable people, a society not chaotic, but already settled, an educational center, churches already established, abundance of pure water, wide streets, with beautiful shade trees and comfortable and attractive houses, it presents the picture of a charming and comfortable home place, whose every feature speaks welcome to the stranger, and offers him the restful comforts which are so necessary to an active and busy life.

The Florence Railroad and Improvement Company offer liberal inducements and free sites to industrial enterprises to locate in Florence. They invite correspondence. With water power from the hills and mountains, with a climate, the race of which can

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not be excelled, even in midsummer, with superior society and schools, Lauderdale offers rare advantages to those seeking homes. Lands may be purchased in the county at prices ranging from $5 to $15 per acre. There are 16,000 acres of Government land in Lauderdale county.

LIMESTONE COUNTY.

THIS COUNTY lies directly north of the Tennessee River. It is one of the first counties formed in the State, having been created while Alabama was yet a territory. Its area comprises 500 square miles.

Population in 1880, 21,600, population in 1890, 21,201. White, 12,198; colored, 9,003.

Tilled land, 96,914 acres. Area planted in cotton, 51,989 acres; in corn, 39,970 acres; in oats, 2,326 acres; in wheat, 1,084 acres; in rye 5 acres; in tobacco, 25 acres; in sweet potatoes, 515 acres.

Cotton Production—8,093 bales.

Limestone has all the varieties of soil which belong to the Tennessee Valley.

The southern portion of the county exceeds in fertility that of the northern. The southern has a more uniform surface, and is capitally adapted to the growth of all the cereals. The lands in this section are almost entirely cleared, and are in a fine state of cultivation. The bottom lands which skirt the numerous streams are exceedingly fertile. Notwithstanding Limestone has long been recognized as one of the chief cereal counties of the State, and still is, the farmers are turning their attention more every year to the production of cotton. In 1880 the county produced 15,724 bales. Indeed, the conclusion has been reached that the county is as well suited to the growth of cotton as to that of corn. Since the close of the war and the emancipation of the slaves, about one-tenth of the land has been abandoned. It is easily reclaimed, however, and it is as fruitful as formerly. The poorest land in Limestone is susceptible of the highest degree of fertilization.

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More and more attention is being turned to stock raising. The grasses usually grown for stock are produced here in the greatest perfection, and the most sanguine expectations of stock-raisers have been realized. The finest pasture lands can be had here, the value of which is greatly enhanced by the multitude of streams which penetrate every part of the county. Great encouragement has been given stock-raisers, year by year, to improve the character of their breeds.

Except upon the lowlands and near the rivers, the county is wonderfully healthy, and along the ridges adjoining these basins excellent places of residence can be had. Formerly these ridges were dwelling places of the wealthiest farmers in the county, while they cultivated the lands in the bottoms. Along these knolls, as almost in every part of the county, fine water is found, together with a salubrious climate.

In many parts of the county are forests of timber in which are found hickory, poplar, chestnut, red and white oak, beech, maple, red and white gum, ash, walnut and cherry.

Along the southern border of the county runs the Tennessee River, several of the large tributaries of which penetrate the territory of Limestone. Elk River flows through the northwest, and at certain seasons is navigable for light crafts. This stream is of vast local advantage since the obstructions have been removed from the Tennessee. Big, Poplar, Round Island, Swan, Piney, Limestone and Beaver Dam Creeks streak the county in every section with waters of perpetual flow. These are reinforced by many large springs in the mountain and hill region. Mineral springs also exist, and are said to be equal to any in the State. The streams abound in remarkably fine fish, vast quantities of which are caught every year.

No great public industries have as yet been established, but a number are in contemplation, both in Athens and Rowland, on the Louisville & Nashville Railroad. Energy, skill, and capital are needed to make Limestone what it is by nature fitted to become—a great manufacturing as well as an agricultural region.

As yet but little attention has been given the mineral products of Limestone. Valuable specimens of lead have been discovered in the Elk River hills. In some portions of the country there

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have been discovered outcroppings of iron ore, as well as fine specimens of coal. Slate has been found to exist in vast quantities, though it has failed thus far to attract public attention. Silver ore has also been discovered, but it is not known to what extent it exists.

The county is highly favored in its facilities for transportation. It is divided in twain from north to south by the great Louisville and Nashville Railroad, which brings it into easy and rapid communication with New Orleans on the south and the great cities of the West on the north.

Fruits grown along these valleys find a ready market in the cities of the Northwest, into commercial relations with which this section is brought by means of its excellent railroad facilities.

Along the southern portion of the county runs the Memphis & Charleston Railroad, which affords a competing line to the producers of the county.

The social advantages of Limestone are those which belong to the best regulated society of the South. The people are hospitable and are prompted by a most generous disposition. Schools of varying grades exist in different parts of the county. In Athens, the county-seat, which has a population of about 1,200, there are several schools of high grade, including a State agricultural school. Churches, usually of the Methodist, Presbyterian and Baptist denominations, prevail.

The other chief towns are Mooresville, Elkmont and Rowland. The last named point is a new town with promising importance. Lands may be purchased in some sections for $5 per acre; in others they will cost much more, being dependent upon the fertility and location.

Limestone contains within its territory 5,000 acres of land belonging to the general government.

NORTH ALABAMA AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL.

This college is located in the corporate limits of Athens. The grounds consist of the college grounds and the experiment farm; the former contains about thirteen acres, six of which is sward covered with a beautiful grove of original growth, inclosed with

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a hedge of osage orange, in midst of which the college building stands. The remaining seven acres are devoted to pasture and garden for the use of boarding department.

The experiment farm is less than a half mile distant from the college. It comprises one hundred and fifty acres, one hundred and twenty-five of which are cleared and in cultivation.

The buildings are located on the college grounds, exclusive of stables and outhouses, are seven in number; of these the principal building is a two-story brick, forty-five by eighty-six feet, divided into assembly and recitation rooms, and devoted exclusively to the purpose of instruction. The main building of the boarding department is a large two-story residence, occupied by the president and his family, members of the faculty, and boarding students. The remaining five buildings include the president's office and dormitories for boarders.

On the experiment farm are additional buildings, consisting of a four-room dwelling, with outhouses and a commodious, well-constructed barn and stable forty feet square. The value of the property belonging to the college and station is $15,000.

The school was opened four years ago, and was under the control of two presidents prior to the present session. Prof. M. K. Clements was elected president of the school in April, 1893, and assumed control and took charge of the property in July. The 1st of September the present session was opened with a hundred and ten pupils. The school has grown constantly since the opening of the present session and there are now one hundred and fifty in attendance, representing eight counties in the State. The course of study embraces English, Mathematics, the Sciences, Latin, Greek, and German; they, also, have a department of Stenography, Typewriting, and Book-keeping; also, a department of Art. The faculty is comprised of college men and women who have made teaching a profession, and at present consists of four gentlemen and two ladies. The college building has recently been furnished with the latest improved desks.

The Board of Control before the beginning of the present session opened the school to girls and up to date about fifty have entered. The outlook for the school is most encouraging, although the small appropriation has prevented the Board of Control from

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supplying the school with many of the appliances necessary to the very best work. Owing to the change in the management of the school and other unavoidable causes, sufficient data are not at hand to enable me to intelligently report on the experiments heretofore conducted on the farm; the management have, however, planned a systematic course of experiments to be made during this and the following season upon thirty acres of the farm, the remainder part of which will be cultivated and the proceeds applied to putting the thirty acres in good condition for experimental work. There is a nice orchard, consisting of forty varieties of apples, forty of pears, twenty of plums, three of quinces, and forty of peaches. They are in their fourth year and many of them are bearing. The vineyard consists of three hundred vines, many of which have died, those that are living are in a tolerably good condition. Especial pains will be taken of the orchard and vineyard.

There is connected with the school a military organization, and it is used to the extent of securing promptness in obedience to all the disciplinary regulations, and in giving regular exercises to the members of the cadet companies. Rev. M. K. Clements is the efficient president.

MADISON COUNTY.

THE county of Madison was the second created in the State, having been formed as early as 1808. It was named in honor of President Madison.

The county has long sustained the reputation of being one of the most inviting regions of the State. In salubrious climate, fertile soil, agricultural resources, picturesque scenery, and refined society invest it with such charms as make it one of the most desirable sections for residence in the State. Its area embraces 872 square miles.

Population in 1880, 37,625; population in 1890, 38,119. White, 19,395; colored, 18,774.

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Area planted in cotton, 75,205 acres; in corn, 69,238; in oats, 7,822 acres; in wheat, 1,721 acres; in tobacco, 9; rye, 97.

Cotton production—13,150 bales.

Madison is the banner county of the Cereal Belt. In wealth and in the production of cotton it leads all the others. In shape, it is almost square. The soils of the county vary in different portions. In the northern and northwestern parts the lands are broken, and are composed of white and yellow clay soils. But the partial barrenness of the soil is amply atoned for by the exuberant resources of water and pure air. These sections are regarded as being exceedingly healthful. Higher up, and around the headwaters of Flint River, there are found some fine tracts of red clay soil and an abundance of excellent timber. The eastern part of the county is mountainous, affording superior farming lands in the intervening valleys. Between the main branches of Flint River, extending northward nearly to the southern limit of Tennessee, are some of the most desirable farming lands in the county. That portion of the land which lies along the Tennessee River, in the southern part of Madison county, is remarkably fertile and is thickly populated. In the mountainous portion of the county, eastward, are found farms which are devoted to raising clover, small grain, and stock.

Madison county occupies medium ground between the tropical and temperate producing regions, with many characteristics peculiar to each. While its soil yields cotton quite readily, it is not equal to that grown in the Cotton Belt. The average annual yield of cotton in the county is about 20,000 bales. But there is a growing disposition on the part of the farmers to forsake cotton and to adopt stock-raising and the production of cereals and grasses exclusively. This can be effected, however, only with a change of the system of labor.

But, notwithstanding the great yield of cotton, Madison is one of the largest corn-producing counties in the State. The wheat crop is annually increasing, and twenty-five or thirty bushels per acre is not considered an unusual crop, on good land. The soils of the county are specially adapted to the growth of clover, tobacco, rice, peas, and potatoes. Dairy and orchard products

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are receiving considerable attention, and their production shows a large annual increase.

With a population of nearly 40,000, the cotton crop of Madison is estimated at $1,000,000; the corn crop about the same; peas and beans, $50,000; potatoes, $100,000, and horses, cattle and sheep nearly $1,000,000.

Adjacent to the mountains, the soils are admirably adapted to the cultivation of vineyard and orchard products. Great and rapid strides have already been made in the direction of horticulture.

Coal has been discovered in the northern portion of Madison, and arrangements are being made to mine it. Iron is believed also to exist.

The county is abundantly supplied with water. The Tennessee River forms its southern boundary, while Flint River and its tributaries water the greater portion of the northern and eastern portions of the county. The Flint is a stream of remarkable clearness and swiftness, and affords excellent facilities for manufacturing purposes. Besides these streams, there are Limestone and Hester's Creeks, and Indian and Spring Mountain Forks. Paint Rock River forms the county boundary on the southeast.

The immense water power of the county, its abounding timber, and its splendid climate are attracting repeated accessions of population, and the increase would be greater if its attractions were more generally known.

Madison county combines, perhaps, as many advantages as any other in Alabama. No causes for local disease exist, and her elements of wealth are in close proximity. About one-half of its surface is covered with forests, some of which overspread the mountain slopes, but can be easily hewn and transported.

The timber is chiefly post, black, white, Spanish and blackjack oaks, beech, poplar and sugar maple. Like many other sections of the State, wanton depredations have been made upon these noble forests, and some of the staple timbers have been almost entirely destroyed. This is especially true of the poplar, the finest specimens of which crown the densely wooded slopes of Madison; yet, a sufficiency remains for farming and building pur-

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poses. The timbers of the county are so distributed as to be accessible to almost every farm.

The Memphis & Charleston Railroad extends through the entire width of the county, east and west. This places it into easy communication with the Louisville & Nashville line, or, at Chattanooga, with the several roads converging there. The Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis, and Talladega & Coosa Valley Railroads also penetrate the county. The Louisville & Nashville system have a projected line.

As the Muscle Shoals have been opened the Tennessee affords one of the grandest water-ways on the continent.

Manufactories have recently received much attention in the county. It has three flourishing cotton factories—located in the city of Huntsville, and Eagle Pencil and many other factories at Gurley.

Perhaps in no county in the State is more attention devoted to the matter of education than in Madison. Schools of excellent grade are to be found throughout the county. In the city of Huntsville is a female college and a male school of repute.

HUNTSVILLE.

Huntsville, the county-seat, with a population of 12,000, is, in every respect, one of the most inviting cities in the South. It has long been noted for the elevated tone of its society and for its spirit of progressiveness. Its picturesque location, architectural beauty, shady walks and macadamized streets; its public buildings, handsome church edifices, superior hotels and mammoth spring, make it exceedingly attractive as a place of residence. Three miles from the city is the Matthew's Jersey Farm which is the most celebrated in the world.

Monte Sano, a charming resort on the mountain summits near the city, is one of the most delightful places in the land. It has a princely hotel, a dummy line and has become quite a summer resort. Its salubrious climate, pure mountain water, refreshing breezes and superb scenery, make it among the most desirable resorts in the Union.

Huntsville was the temporary State capital in 1819. It was in

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this city that the convention, in 1819, which formed the first State constitution, met, and here, in the same year, assembled the first legislature of the newly created State of Alabama.

New Market, Maysville, Gurley and Madison, are thriving towns.

Men of energy, thrift, and enterprise, whether with or without capital, would be cordially welcomed to this county. Facilities for accumulation abound here for the manufacturer, the agriculturist, or the horticulturist. Large numbers of Germans and other farmers have settled in the northern part of the county.

Lands can now be had for from $5 to $15 per acre, with an upward tendency in valuation.

The number of acres of Government land in the county is estimated at 5,000.

JACKSON COUNTY.

THIS county takes its name from the hero of New Orleans. It was constituted in 1818, the same year of the admission of Alabama into the Union. Its resources in soils, minerals and timbers, are both varied and abundant. While even prior to the war some activity was displayed in developing its coal deposits, the wonderful abundance of these was not fully recognized until within the last few years. Its area is 990 square miles.

Population in 1880, 25,114; population in 1890, 28,026. White, 24,179; colored, 2,847.

Area planted in cotton, 18,839 acres; in corn, 66,011 acres; in oats, 8,652 acres; in wheat, 942 acres; in rye, 41 acres; in tobacco, 8 acres.

Cotton production—5,358 bales.

The surface of Jackson is not so level as that of the adjacent counties, but its valleys are wonderfully fertile, and its hills and mountains are full of the richest ores. It is doubtful whether the county can be surpassed by any other in the State in the diversity of its elements.

The Tennessee River runs in a southwesterly direction through

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Jackson, and divides it into two distinct sections—Raccoon Mountain on the southeast, and the spurs of the Cumberland Mountains on the northwest. The width of the valley, which slopes gradually to the Tennessee River, is about four miles, being wider on the northern than on the southern side of the stream. The soil in the valley is quite fertile. Ascending to the summit of the ridges from the river, one stands upon extensive table lands, the uniformity of whose surface is relieved by occasional dips of the soil which mark the presence of mountain streams. When these streams issue from the mountains, they often present wild and picturesque scenes. The lands along these plateaus, while not so rich as those lying contiguous to the river, are yet productive and easy of cultivation. The soils are of a light gray and yellowish color. These lands have long been regarded as quite valuable, because of their excellent pasturage facilities.

Northward from the Tennessee River the surface of the country becomes more and more broken, but more abundant in its valuable stones, and in its bold, refreshing springs which burst innumerably from the craggy hills.

This suggests the vast abundance of water with which the county is supplied. In some respects Jackson leads all the other counties in the Tennessee Valley in the production of cereals, while it falls behind others in the production of cotton. Corn, oats, wheat, rye, tobacco, sweet potatoes, wool, sorghum, honey and butter are chief among its manifold productions. Peas, apples, peaches, grapes and berries grow almost to perfection. Along the slopes of the hills of Jackson county are found splendid orchards of peaches. There is a steady growth of interest in stock-raising. Along the high table lands of the county are numerous small farms which are surrounded with all the evidences of plenty and contentment. The streams are the Tennessee and Paint Rock Rivers, and Big and Little Raccoon, Mud, Widow, Big Crow, Jones, Santa, Big Lanne, and Williams' creeks, and Hurricane and Larkins' Forks. Besides these, numerous mountain springs abound, the water of which is pure and perpetual. The county is unexcelled in its water supply. The hills and mountain flanks are densely wooded, while some of the alluvial valleys are still uncleared and are covered over with valuable

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timber. On the uplands are found black and red oaks, pine, cedar, and hickory. Along the valleys are found poplar, ash, maple, beech, walnut, sweet gum, cherry, and giant white oak. Indeed, both upon the table lands and in the valleys, many of the forests remain in their virgin state. They extend along the broad and deep streams of the county, and timbers hewn from them may be easily rafted. The inclination of the different water courses is such as to favor the erection of manufactories, and for local demands, such do exist.

Facilities for transportation in Jackson county are admirable. The Tennessee River flows the entire length of the county, and gives a river front of at least sixty miles. Its numerous tributaries, which reach every section of the county, are of sufficient size to accommodate the use of light boats, and such are employed for local trade during the seasons of greatest rainfall—the winter and spring. Running almost parallel with the deep-flowing Tennessee, though some distance from it, is the Memphis & Charleston Railroad, while across the upper portion of the county runs the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad. Numerous towns of importance are springing up along these lines of transportation. Along the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad are Long Island, Bridgeport, Bolivar and Stevenson. On the Memphis & Charleston Railroad are Fackler, Bellefonte, Scottsboro, the county seat, Larkinsville, Limrock, Woodville, and Paint Rock.

Commensurate with the growth of population and of mineral wealth is the growth of the spirit of education. The county has several prominent institutions of learning, all of which are in a flourishing condition. William and Emma Austin College, at Stevenson, is a useful and popular institution; Scottsboro College, a school for males and females, is in a thrifty condition. In all the towns and villages are local schools.

The mineral products of Jasper are coal and iron, while the supply of marble and limestone is unlimited. Coal abounds both in the Cumberland and Sand mountains. These ranges traverse the county twenty or thirty miles. From one of the numerous caves in the county is obtained saltpetre. It was used by the Confederate authorities during the civil war. In several parts

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of the county are mineral springs, containing water of superior quality.

There are several industries in the county which have attained considerable local prominence. Among these are the Belmont mines, situated twelve miles west of Scottsboro. In the town of Scottsboro are numerous steam and saw-mills, and a hub, spoke, and felly factory. There are facilities of industry afforded in Jackson county, the variety of which, perhaps, is not surpassed by that of any other county in Alabama.

With a favorable climate, diversified and yielding every variety of farm product, exhaustless supplies of water, vast quantities of ore, superior facilities for transportation, and excellent social advantages, the county is destined to be one of the most populous in the State.

Lands can be obtained in the county at prices ranging from $8 to $25, according to their fertility and location.

There are in Jackson county 32,720 acres of government land, which are, in part, subject to entry.

Settlers from the West have, in a number of instances, come in and occupied these lands, and have established neat and thrifty farms.

MARSHALL COUNTY.

MARSHALL county was organized in 1836 and named in honor of Chief Justice Marshall, of Virginia. It partakes of all the general characteristics which belong to the counties clustering along the north and south banks of the Tennessee River, and forming the great Cereal Belt of Alabama. While it is called a cereal county, its soils and resources are so varied that it takes on many other features. The area of the county is 560 square miles.

Population in 1880, 14,585; population in 1890, 18,935; white, 17,652; colored, 1,283.

Area planted in cotton, 27,470 acres; in corn, 37,424 acres; in oats, 6,925 acres; in wheat, 919 acres; in rye, 98 acres; in tobacco, 8 acres; cotton production, 8,112 bales.

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Marshall county is about equally divided by a valley which cuts it in twain from northeast to southwest. Along the line of this valley flows the Tennessee River as far as Guntersville, the county seat, when it turns northwest. The valley lands of the county are, for the most part level, with occasional undulations, and constitute the most attractive farming districts of the county. They have been in cultivation for many years. These lands are very productive, and are of the same character as those of every portion of the Tennessee Valley. The ridge lands vary in the degree of their fertility. They are usually of a light gray color with a red or yellow subsoil. In the past the rich lands of the valleys have been devoted very generally to the production of cotton. The table and ridge lands vary in the degree of fertility from the most productive to the thinnest; but all are adapted to the growth of cotton, grain and fruit. Perhaps within equal compass a greater variety of soil can not be found elsewhere within the State.

Such is the blandness of the climate along the green valleys of Marshall that every cereal and esculent grown in the southern portion of the State can be produced here. Deprived, as the people of this county have been, of intercourse, to a great extent, with the world beyond, by reason of the absence of railroad communication, they have enjoyed ample opportunity of putting to test the charm of their climate and the productiveness of their soils. The hardiest field grain, as well as the tenderest fruit of the temperate zone, are successfully grown here. In Marshall county the conditions are equally favorable to agriculture, horticulture, stock raising and manufacturing.

Such is the value and variety of the soils of the county that agriculture in all its branches can be made most profitable. Its climate and diversity of soil are favorable to horticulture, and the generous, responsive soil yields as fine clovers, timothy and grasses as can be grown in the South. But farming, stock raising and manufacturing will be the chief industrial pursuits of the people.

The great forests of valuable woods in Marshall county have been scarcely touched. Along the ridges and slopes there grow

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in stately grandeur magnificent specimens of oak, hickory, beech, walnut and cherry. At a later day, when the hand of Art shall have laid the railway lines, these timbers will prove of great value.

The county throughout is abundantly supplied with water. The Tennessee River flows through the county and makes its great bend in the heart of it, as it suddenly curves from a southerly to a northwesterly course.

The northern boundary of the county is skirted by Paint Rock River, which separates Marshall from Madison county. In the northeastern section the county is drained by Town Creek, while on the south the Locust Fork and its numerous branches furnish abundant supplies of water to that region. In every part of the county there are bold mountain springs of the purest and coolest water.

Like the other resources of the county its mineral wealth is, as yet, undeveloped. The fact simply exists that there are deposits of coal, red hematite and bog ore, manganese, copper, lead and silver. But little effort has been made to develop these, because of the absence of transportation in the past. But this difficulty will soon be overcome. The completion of the Tennessee & Coosa Railroad through Marshall county, crossing the river at Manchester, will soon have been effected. The Birmingham Mineral Railroad is also being rapidly built. The Guntersville & Scottsboro Railroad is chartered, and the right-of-way secured. Negotiations are now pending for beginning work at once upon this line.

With the Muscle Shoals Canal completed, Marshall will have a water-way second to that of no other portion of the continent, for, as has already been said, the peculiar curve of the great river makes it accessible to every part of the county.

The commercial importance of the Tennessee River can scarcely be overestimated since the great natural barrier at Muscle Shoals is removed. When this stream has been united with the Coosa at Gadsden there will be communication with all the great railway lines leading toward the East and Northwest. Peculiar advantages are thus afforded in this county to investors.

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The population of Marshall county is honest, intelligent, thrifty, and industrious. It is almost exclusively a white population. Good schools are found in every section of the county. Guntersville, the county seat, situated upon the Tennessee River, has a population of nearly 700, and is the seat of a Normal School of high grade. Its environments are favorable to a large city. Surrounded by a fertile agricultural region, commanding the trade of the Tennessee River in both directions, and the destined center of a future railway system, it will have all the facilities for a bustling center of commerce.

Much of the grandeur and picturesqueness of the Tennessee Valley are accessible to this future city. Mountain rapids, cascades, and waterfalls contribute to the abounding variety of the region, and but a short distance from the town there are the traces of the Mound Builders, and a large cave.

The other chief towns are Warrenton, Henryville, Claysville, Albertville, Oleander, and Manchester.

Because of the inaccessibility of Marshall county the lands are, at present, moderately low. They can now be purchased at merely nominal figures; but this section is attracting the eager attention of speculators, and at no remote day the lands will be purchased. Lands for farming, stock-raising, or timbers may be bought, when unimproved, for from $1 to $5 per acre. Improved lands will cost from $3 to $50 per acre, and their valuation will depend upon the character of their soils, improvements, and location.

Marshall county has 3,000 acres of public or government lands, some of which are subject to entry.

Persons seeking information in regard to the county of Marshall will be cheerfully answered free of charge by addressing inquiries to *The Democrat*, Guntersville, Ala. Write for free sample copies, showing maps, views, resources, and opportunities offered.

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MORGAN COUNTY.

THE county of Morgan was established in the year 1818, and named for General Daniel Morgan, of Pennsylvania. It lies directly south of the Tennessee River, and is one of the most important counties in North Alabama. Its area is 700 square miles.

Population in 1880, 16,928; population in 1890, 24,089; white, 18,015; colored, 6,076.

Area planted in cotton, 23,628 acres; in corn, 38,048 acres; in oats, 6,395 acres; in wheat, 968 acres; in rye, 52 acres; in tobacco, 7 acres; cotton production, 6,241 bales.

Proceeding southward from the Tennessee River, which forms the northern boundary of Morgan county, there are met four terrace-like plains, each with characteristics peculiar to itself. The first of these would be the bottoms, which lie in close proximity to the Tennessee River. The soils here are porous and productive, but liable to overflow. For this reason they are planted almost altogether in corn. Occasionally, however, where the soil is not so much exposed to overflow, there is cotton planted.

Then comes the land of the Valley of the Tennessee proper. This is elevated above the bottoms about seventy-five or one hundred feet, and possesses the red or brown soils, which mark the great valley from limit to limit. Because of the generous soil possessed by this valley, the lands are almost wholly cleared. The valley in this county varies very greatly. In some parts it is but a mile or two wide, while in others it is fully eight.

Ascending to the next natural formation one is from seventy-five to one hundred feet above the valley, and is upon the summit of a range known as Little Mountain. The lands along this broad, natural shelf are not so fertile as those in the valley for purposes of farming, but are superior in their pasturage qualities. Grasses in the greatest variety and luxuriance grow along this lofty plateau. Here we find the stock-producing section of the county. Of course, from this, it will not be understood that the soils of this section are incapable of producing only grasses.

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In this portion of Morgan are found many thrifty farms, surrounded by all the comforts of life. It is more distinctively adapted, however, to stock-raising than to agriculture.

From this elevated plain, which commands the view of the Tennessee Valley, and going southward there is a perceptible descent to the foot of Sand Mountain. This is the fourth distinct division of the county. The width of this terrace varies from one to twelve miles. Along this we find a great variety of soil, the fertility or thinness of which is indicated by its peculiar hue. In some portions the lands are black, while in others they are red and gray. That part of the county which is now being described is a portion of the great Warrior Coalfield. Thus it will be seen that Morgan possesses, to a greater or less degree, all the advantages, agriculturally and otherwise, which are possessed by the surrounding counties of the great Tennessee Valley. All the grains are produced here that are produced elsewhere in this North Alabama region. And the hardy fruits, such as apples, peaches, pears, and the various berries are grown abundantly and are usually of superior quality. The water supply of the county is superior. The Tennessee River forms the whole of the northern boundary of the county, while Flint Creek and its two forks, Cataco, No Business, Cedar, Shoal, Six Mile, Main, Scrouge and Gandy's Fork, penetrate every portion of it, and not only supply it with water, but contribute greatly to the enrichment of the soils. The county is also well watered with superior springs. In the northeastern portion are the Valhermoso and Lacey Springs, which enjoy a local reputation. The different streams afford excellent fish.

There is an abundance of wood for all purposes in the county. Vast districts of the county have scarcely been touched by the woodman's axe. Principal among the timbers which throng the forests are the post-oak, blackjack, hickory, poplar, walnut, maple, sour-wood, cherry, cedar, and short-leaf pine. There are large milling interests which are engaged in the conversion of much of this timber into lumber for home consumption and for shipment to distant markets.

Facilities for transportation are found in the Tennessee River, which forms the northern boundary line of the county, the Louis-

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ville & Nashville Railroad, which runs entirely through, and the Memphis & Charleston Railroad, which penetrates the northern end of the county and crosses the Louisville & Nashville system at Decatur. Other railway lines are in contemplation which are expected to pierce other portions of the county and thus greatly enlarge facilities for the shipment of products, but sufficient outlet for transportation is already afforded in the lines which now penetrate the county. Unusual advantages for the shipment of produce is afforded the inhabitants of Morgan, as the competing lines of railway cross at Decatur, and there also cross the Tennessee River, the navigation of which will soon be open in both directions.

The county is being rapidly peopled and correspondingly developed. Minerals exist in different parts of the county. These are chiefly coal and limestone, though there is the evident presence of gold, and the indications are that it is in large quantities. Asphalt also exists, being the first trace of it discovered in America. No direct effort has been made to develop these mineral resources, the investigations hitherto being directed only to ascertain the extent of their prevalence. The moral tone of the population of the county is healthy, and excellent school and church facilities abound in town and county alike.

Of the towns, Somerville is an interior village with a population of several hundred, and has a flourishing school.

Decatur.

For many years Decatur was content to be a quiet town of 1,200 inhabitants, lying favorably at the junction of the Louisville & Nashville and Memphis & Charleston Railroads. These two great thoroughfares meet upon the banks of the Tennessee River, and at this point is located the city of Decatur. Catching the spirit that was astir throughout the entire North Alabama region, Decatur began to take a new and vigorous growth, and within the last two years its population has increased to more than 6,000.

The chief feature of the city is that portion which is designated as New Decatur. Its new and spacious streets and avenues, lined with residences and business houses, some of which rival in

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attractiveness those of the largest cities, its mammoth and splendid hotel—The Tavern—and its numerous industries, serve to show the life and spirit of this city of the Tennessee. Chief among the industries are these:

1. The United States Rolling Stock Company has removed their immense plant from Urbana, Ohio, to this place. Cost, $1,000,000.
2. The Louisville & Nashville Railway Car Works. Cost of buildings, $300,000. Employs 750 men.
3. Charcoal Company's plant, costing $120,000.
4. A 70-ton Charcoal Iron Furnace, costing $100,000.
5. The Decatur Iron Bridge & Construction Company. Cost, $100,000.
6. The Car Wheel & Manufacturing Company, capacity 140 wheels per day. Cost of plant, $60,000.
7. Southern Horseshoe Nail Factory, 60 mechanics. Capital, $100,000.
8. The American Oak Extract Company's plant, costing $60,000.
9. Ivens & Son's Steam Boiler & Engine Works, costing $100,000.
10. Morse's Cotton Compress plant, costing $60,000.
11. Decatur Lumber Company, Saw & Planing Mills, costing $50,000.
12. Berthard & Co., Sash, Door & Blind Factory, costing $15,000.
13. The Decatur Street Railway.
14. The Telephone Company.
15. Brush Electric Light Company.
16. Howland & Company's Water Works System, costing $200,000.
17. Bleymeyer Artificial Ice Company, cost $10,000.
18. One mammoth brick yard.
19. Arantz Brothers' Mills & Lumber Yards.
20. Hoy's Furniture Factory.
21. H. S. Freeman's Mills & Lumber Yards.
22. Natural Gas Company. Capital, $200,000.
23. First National Bank. Capital, $100,000.

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24. The Exchange Bank of Decatur. Capital, $100,000.
25. Decatur Building Association. Capital, $300,000.
26. Buchheit's Bottling Works.
27. The Decatur Plumbing & Supply Company. Capital, $25,000.

Located so near the great mineral fields, and destined to enjoy marked advantages when the Muscle Shoals works are completed, Decatur will become one of the great cities of the State. Excellent school and church facilities abound in the favored city. It is now the seat of justice.

Falkville, Trinity, Hartselle, Somerville, Leesburg, Danville and Valhermoso Springs are points of chief importance, and possess valuable educational interests.

Lands in this county may be purchased at prices ranging from $5 to $40 per acre.

Considering the competing lines which cross each other in the county, its superior soil, its climate and medicinal waters, together with its numerous social advantages, Morgan county is the peer of any other in the great Cereal Belt. The people regard with favor and encouragement the settlement of men of studious, industrious and frugal habits, in their midst.

The county has no unappropriated Government lands.

LAWRENCE COUNTY.

THAN this a more attractive county is not found within the State. It was organized in 1818 and was named in honor of the great naval officer, James Lawrence, of Vermont.

In point of fertility, in agricultural productions, in topography, climate, and numerous social advantages, it stands in the front rank of the counties of Alabama.

Lawrence county has an area of 790 square miles.

Population in 1880, 21,392; population in 1890, 20,725. White, 12,553; colored, 8,172.

Area planted in cotton, 4,000 acres; in corn, 44,631; in oats,

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2,970 acres; in wheat, 1,022 acres; in rye, 24 acres; tobacco, 13 acres.

Cotton production—9,248 bales.

The county is penetrated from east to west by two extensive valleys known as Courtland and Moulton Valleys. The former of these being in the northern and the latter in the southern portion of the county, while the center is occupied by a detached mountain known as Little Mountain.

The Courtland Valley is a beautiful level domain with sandy loam soil, which is not very deep, but resting upon a good foundation. When first cleared, the lands along the valley are exceedingly productive. The soil is of a mulatto cast tinged to a great depth by the iron which enters freely into its composition. A prevailing characteristic of this soil is that it dries rapidly after a rainfall. It is easy of cultivation.

When fresh, the lands of the Courtland Valley were quite productive, and the early settlers of the county accumulated property very rapidly, but they were not judicious in the use of fertilizers to check any symptoms of decay, nor were they discreet in every instance in planting ameliorating crops.

By the use of manures to-day, these lands, which are still productive, can be rendered wonderfully so, as they can be improved by a proper system of rotation. This is the result of the experiments made by the farmers of Courtland Valley since the close of the war. Clover, corn, small grain and cotton grow with great readiness, and are gratifyingly productive in this valley.

Moulton Valley, in its essential features, is like Courtland Valley, only it has more of the branch soil, which is black. In this valley head Town Creek, which runs north through the Little Mountain and empties into the Tennessee River; Big Nance Creek, which runs in the same direction, and Flint River, which traverses a portion of Morgan county and finds an outlet in the Tennessee River.

These creek lands are regarded among the most productive in the county when properly drained. The farms are smaller here than in Courtland Valley, cultivated with more care, and are consequently more remunerative.

The Little Mountain region, which occupies the central portion

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of the county, has a light sandy soil, which in point of fertility falls far behind those of the two valleys. But no portion of the county is more inviting than this as a place of residence. Elevated three or four hundred feet above the valleys, supplied with a profusion of freestone and chalybeate springs, with a soft, healthful atmosphere, with extensive reaches of grazing lands for herds, this section is most inviting to many who come to Lawrence county in search of homes. A small colony of Quakers has recently located in this region, midway between the towns of Courtland and Moulton.

The county is traversed by numerous streams, large and small, which afford abundant supplies of water to every portion. The northern boundary of the county is formed by the Tennessee River, and more than half this boundary is occupied by the Great Muscle Shoals, which are not navigable. The upper boundary, however, is on the open portion of the Tennessee River, which will soon be opened to the largest packets. In other portions of the county are Town and Nance Creeks, a fork of Flint River, and Sipsey Fork. Springs of great coolness and of unceasing flow issue from the hilly portions of the county.

Timber is not in sufficient quantities for commercial purposes. In the past, the Little Mountain region furnished great quantities to the two valleys between which it is situated; but the forests have been sufficiently depleted to create care and protection against future depredations. For home consumption there is still a sufficiency of pine, white oak and poplar. The islands in the Tennessee are densely wooded with poplar, white oak, ash, red gum, and black oak.

The mineral resources of the county, as far as discovered, are limited. A few thin seams of coal are found on the high escarpments of the mountains, but it is not in sufficient quantities for practical purposes. Almost every kind of fruit seems to do well in Lawrence county. The productions have been the most satisfactory. Grape culture has received more attention than any other.

Colonel James E. Saunders, living near Courtland, has a famous vineyard, in which is successfully grown every species of grape known to the fruit-growers of the continent. He manufactures a

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large quantity of wine every year, and ships vast cargoes of grapes to the markets of the North and Northwest.

The facilities for transportation will be restricted to the Memphis & Charleston Railroad, which runs through the Courtland Valley east and west, until the Tennessee River shall have been opened by the completion of the Muscle Shoals Canal.

The chief towns of the county are Moulton, the county-seat, which has a population of about 800, Courtland and Leighton.

Good common schools exist in every section of the county, and a female academy of high grade in the town of Moulton.

In almost every region of the county are the evidence of thrift and progress. Along the high, healthful ridges are found many handsome homes, adorned with flower gardens and surrounded with spacious orchards.

In some regions of the county, where coves are formed, there are oftentimes found scenes of great wildness and beauty.

The prices of land vary in the county, and are controlled by the fertility of the soil and the location of the land. Lands vary in prices from $5 to $50.

Thrifty, wideawake, progressive immigrants would be greeted by the good people of Lawrence county. Farmers, fruit-growers and stock-raisers could not find a more inviting section. The county has no Government lands not taken up.

COLBERT COUNTY.

THE county of Colbert was not created until 1867. It was created for a famous Chickasaw chief. Though one of the youngest counties of the State, it has already made long strides to the front as one of the most progressive. "Beautiful for situation," advantageously located, and abounding in the most generous soils, exuberant water courses, and a progressive population, Colbert has the elements to make it one of the most charming sections of the entire State.

The area of the county is 570 square miles.

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Population in 1880, 16,153; population in 1890, 20,187. White, 12,261; colored, 7,828.

Area planted in cotton, 23,059; in corn, 27,305; in oats, 1,997; in wheat, 72; in rye, 15; in tobacco, 7; cotton production, 3,956.

The area of land in cultivation is rapidly enlarging and the production being, in consequence, very materially increased.

The county is divided from east to west by a broad range of hills, which are locally called the Little Mountain. Between this elevated ridge and the Tennessee River, which forms its boundary on the north, is that portion of the Tennessee Valley which lies within the county. South of these hills lies Russell Valley. The dividing hills are about three hundred or three hundred and fifty feet above the valleys between which they stand. The lands along the summit of these hills are the least fertile of those of the county, and are well adapted and frequently devoted to the raising of fruit which is grown in great profusion and to wonderful perfection.

The altitude of the hills, together with their abounding springs of water, make them especially desirable as places of summer residence.

In Russell Valley the lands are of excellent quality, and are much sought by farmers because of their productiveness. The same is true of the Tennessee Valley. The latter valley is more level than the former, and the lands are not so much exposed to washing. In both valleys there is a prevalence of reddish loam with a subsoil of yellow or red clay. In some sections the lands assume a deep blackness like that of the richest prairie lands. Upon these lands are produced the finest corn, cotton, wheat and oats. The growth of grass is spontaneous, and its exuberance makes Colbert a magnificent stock region. The efforts at stock-raising in the county have been most gratifying, and prove the conditions most favorable for the raising of the finest horses, mules, cattle and sheep.

There is a large amount of open range in the hills, which, from the character of the land, must for many years remain open and afford magnificent free pasturage, throughout ten months of the year, for the flocks and herds of the thrifty valley farmers.

The chief productions of Colbert are cotton, corn, wheat, oats,

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clover, grasses and potatoes, all of which are quite thrifty, and show the generous nature of the soil in which they are grown.

The timbers of the county are the different varieties of the oak, red, white, blackjack, post, cherry and chestnut, together with black walnut, the different gums and short-leaf pine. Magnificent specimens of oak and hickory are found along the rich valleys, and in great abundance. One of the most valuable features of Colbert is its splendid forests of timber.

Big Bear, Cedar, Spring and Town Creeks drain the different portions of the county. Several of these flow into the Tennessee on the north, and hence their value is greatly enhanced.

There are three railroads in the county, the Memphis & Charleston, which runs directly through the county from east to west, and a branch of which connects Florence across the Tennessee River in Lauderdale county, with Sheffield and Tuscumbia; the Sheffield & Birmingham, which runs south to Jasper, and at that point connects with Birmingham, and makes it directly tributary to Sheffield the vast deposits of ore and coal which lie in inexhaustible abundance throughout the mineral fields south of the Tennessee River, and the Sheffield division of the Louisville & Nashville road, which enters the county by a bridge across the Tennessee River, at Florence. Besides these roads, built and in active operation, the preliminary work on several other roads has been completed and the work of construction on the same will soon be commenced.

The Tennessee River, navigable throughout the greater part of the year for the largest Mississippi and Ohio River steamers, from its mouth to the Sheffield landing, forms the entire northern boundary of the county and is a most important transportation route between Colbert county and the immense extent of country reached by the great water-ways of the Ohio and the Mississippi from their limit of navigation to the Gulf of Mexico.

In transportation facilities no county in the State of Alabama is more richly favored than Colbert.

Tuscumbia was founded in 1818. It is a beautiful little city of some two thousand inhabitants, and is the county seat. The Deshler Institute, a school of considerable renown, is located here. The town is noted for its "Big Spring" from which issues

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an immense volume of freestone water. Cherokee, Chickasaw and Leighton are pleasant little villages and good trading points.

Sheffield, the most important city in the county, and destined to take rank with the first in this entire section in commercial and manufacturing consequence, was founded in 1884, and has already attained a considerable prominence. The city is beautifully located upon a broad plateau stretching back from the crown of the bluffs which here overlook the Tennessee River. It occupies a superb site, and seems to have been especially designed by Providence as the location of a great business center. From it radiate three great railroad lines, and to it several more are being built as fast as a liberal expenditure of money and muscle will do it. By the Tennessee River it has a line of water-way transportation that is unsurpassed, and situated as it is, near the head of navigation on this important stream, it must in the future become a great distributing point for a large section of country. In this flourishing four-year-old city are the homes of quite four thousand people. Magnificent brick business blocks have been erected, and colossal manufacturing enterprises, unequalled in any city of its size in the United States, have been carried to completion. Its five immense blast furnaces produce 700 tons of pig iron daily, and create in themselves a volume of business that would do credit to cities many times larger than Sheffield. The quality of iron produced is unsurpassed by any similar plant in the United States. The city is lighted by electricity, supplied with water by a complete water works system, has a street car line, and a telephone exchange is soon to be inaugurated. The First National Bank of Sheffield and the Bank of Sheffield are both sound financial institutions located in Sheffield, and are the only banks in the county. They have a capital stock of $100,000 each, and do a large business.

The common school system of the county is good, and Sheffield and Tuscumbia are provided with educational advantages that are exceptional.

Almost all of the religious denominations have active organizations in the county, and church privileges are abundant.

Brown hematite iron ore, inexhaustible in quantity and analyzing 54 per cent. of metal, is found in the southern part of the

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county, and several quarries of magnificent sand and limestone have been opened.

The Mountain Mills (cotton) are found at Barton Station, on the Memphis & Charleston Railroad. These mills have been in successful operation since 1873.

Lands may be purchased in the county at prices ranging from $5 to $50 per acre. The resources, agricultural and mineral, the facilities for manufacturing, farming and stock-raising, and the abundant means of transportation, gives Colbert a conspicuous place in the midst of the other counties in this section of Alabama. There are in the county nearly 2,960 acres of land belonging to the government.

THE MINERAL BELT.

OF THE four great belts into which the State is divided, the Mineral is, by odds, the largest. It embraces twenty-eight counties, which cover more than one-third of the State. This vast area embraces almost all the chief minerals known to art, and in many instances in fabulous abundance. It is idle to undertake to calculate the extent of the prevalence of some of the mineral deposits of Alabama. This admits of special application to stone, coal and iron. All indications and investigations point to the exhaustlessness of these minerals which lie stored away beneath the thrones of the everlasting hills. Stupendous enterprises under the auspices of mammoth corporations have, of late years, sprung up for the development of these minerals, but each step of progress only discloses how inexhaustible they are. There are embraced in the Mineral Belt, three great coalfields—the Warrior, the Cahaba, and the Coosa.

The Warrior Coalfield

has an area of about 7,810 square miles. It is much larger than the other two combined. By some it is estimated as being ten times the size of the other two taken together. Professor McCalley, supposing that the available coal of this field would

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cover an area of only 500 square miles, with seventy-five feet thickness, giving a block of coal seventy-five miles long by fifty miles wide, and ten feet thick; and the result would be 37,500,000,000 tons—enough to last for nearly 10,275 years at the rate of 10,000 tons per day. But this, so far from being an extravagant estimate, is regarded by scientists as falling vastly below the capacity of this wonderful domain of minerals.

The coals from the Warrior field are well adapted to the production of gas and steam, as well as fitted for the domestic hearth and the shop of the blacksmith. Excellent coking coals are derived from some sections of this field. The vastness of this body of coal suggests that it will one day constitute one of the greatest industrial centers of the Union.

The Cahaba Coalfield.

For many years, beginning before the commencement of the war, the coal derived from this field has been famous as a domestic fuel. It was dug more than a quarter century ago and hauled in wagons to the Alabama River and rafted to Mobile and Montgomery. This coalfield lies south of the Warrior Coalfield, and occupies a more southern latitude than any other found in the United States. It covers an area of over 400 square miles, and its measures are estimated as being 5,000 feet thick. Estimating the output at 10,000 tons per day, Professor McCalley decides that the deposits of the Cahaba coalfield would not be exhausted short of 1,100 years. This coal is remarkable for its firmness and its capacity to resist atmospheric changes.

Coosa Coalfield.

This is the smallest of the coal districts of Alabama, and one about which less is known than any other. Means of exploration have been scant, by reason of the remoteness of this field, until the construction of the Georgia Pacific Railroad. It has been estimated, however, that it will cover an area of 400 square miles, giving the largest margin for deduction. Professor McCalley reaches the conclusion that with an output of 10,000 tons per day the coal of this region would last 165 years.

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Aggregating these enormous sums concerning the available coal in Alabama, it is seen that there is at least 42,100,000,000 tons, which will supply a demand of 10,000 tons daily for 11,500 years.

These great districts of mineral wealth are penetrated here and there by valleys which afford a vast abundance of limestone. And then, as if to supply the last deficiency, a providential Maker has favored these broad regions of mineral with deep and perpetual river-ways, on the bosoms of which these products of wealth may be borne to the seas and to the distant quarters of the globe.

Iron.

Iron is the symbol of civilization. Its value can be measured only by the progress of the present age. It is the most potent of all the metals. Indeed, it is worth more to the world than all other metals combined. Silver and gold are not indispensable. Substitutes could be readily found for them were they exhausted, but iron represents only the honest industry of labor. Its uses are universal, and it is fitted alike to hold the stoutest ship at anchor against the ocean storm and to manufacture screws in delicate machinery so minute that they can be seen only through the microscope.

The beds of this ore are so numerous throughout this famous mineral region that it is impossible to point out the localities where it prevails. Lying in close proximity to coal, its manufacture is far easier than in the older mineral regions of America, where expensive means have to be employed to bring them together.

Thus far the most valuable outcroppings of red ore are found in the counties of St. Clair, Jefferson and Shelby.

The brown iron ore is extensively diffused in the region lying south of the Tennessee River. It is already mined in the counties of Cherokee, Etowah, Calhoun, Talladega and Bibb.

The barest mention has been made of these dominating minerals in this great belt. Besides these, there prevails gold, silver, copper, tin, lead, graphite, abestos, emery, gypsum, mica, ochre,

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asphalt, marble, kaolin, and fire clays. The localities of these minerals will be indicated when our attention shall have been turned to the consideration of the counties.

Besides these marvelous deposits of treasure, the Mineral Belt has superb forests of timber, which cover many thousands of square miles.

In addition still, it embraces as splendid farms as can be found in any portion of the South. Thus has an Infinite Creator placed together in lavish profusion all the elements of wealth and comfort known to our advanced civilization—all the precious and practical ores and minerals, the most splendid timbers, springs, fountains, and rivers of the purest water, soils of fertility, and an atmosphere the brace and healthfulness of which are unexcelled.

FRANKLIN COUNTY.

THIS county took its name from the great American philosopher, Benjamin Franklin. It was organized in the year 1818. It is one of the border counties of the State, lying adjacent to Mississippi; notwithstanding it is placed prominent among the mineral counties, its agricultural resources are also of superior order.

The area of the county is 610 square miles.

Population in 1880, 9,155; population in 1890, 10,681. White, 9,520; colored, 1,161.

Area planted in cotton, 12,117 acres; in corn, 20,130 acres; in oats, 2,152 acres; in wheat, 193 acres; in rye, 4 acres; in tobacco, 3 acres.

Cotton production—2,669 bales.

The northern half of the county is a valley known as Russell's Valley; the southern portion is a high tableland, which is the northern part of the Warrior coalfield.

The soils, especially in the northern part, are of such character as to be favorable to the production of cotton and the cereals Indeed, in some sections of Franklin the lands fall not a whit behind the fertile lands of the famous Tennessee Valley.

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The lands which lie along its attractive valleys, and those of the western part of the county, which are of a loamy character, are favorable to the production of cotton. As is seen from the aggregate statement of productions, furnished above, the varied soils of Franklin are productive of almost every cereal. Grasses and clovers grow with great readiness, and hence stock-raising is easy. In some portions of the county are valuable timbers, which will be of immense value when the transportation facilities of the county are improved. Among these may be mentioned the different varieties of oak, viz: red, white, post and black-jack, together with an excellent growth of cedar, dogwood, chestnut, walnut, wild cherry and black locust, hackberry and hickory.

The streams are Cedar, Big and Little Bears Creeks, all of which flow toward the northwest and empty into the Tennessee River. Other smaller streams, which are tributary to these already mentioned, afford an abundant water supply to every portion of the county, enhancing its value, both with respect to its manufacturing and stock-raising facilities. The centers of interest are, Bellgreen, the county-seat, Frankfort, Russellville and Center Line, all of which have good local schools. The county is now penetrated by one of the most important railway lines in the State, viz: The Sheffield & Birmingham Railroad. This gives the county transportation advantages to Birmingham in one direction and to the Tennessee River in the other.

The Savannah & Memphis Railroad is projected through Franklin county. Should it come to pass that this important line will be completed, it will necessarily cross the East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia Railway system at Talladega, and the Anniston & Atlantic at the same point.

It would also intersect the great thoroughfares, the Georgia Pacific and the Louisville & Nashville. But that which will be the chief glory of the county will be the development of its ore wealth. Its beds of iron ore are known to be immense, but they are, as yet almost untouched by the hand of art. It was in this county that the first effort was ever made in Alabama to manufacture iron. This was undertaken as far back as 1818, but after an experiment of nine years the enterprise was abandoned. The mines of this primitive establishment are still to be seen in Frank-

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lin county. Remote from transportation, it is amazing that it should have so long existed. But the transportation is now supplied, and a new impulse will be given the iron interest of this section of the State. The extent of the coal deposits of Franklin are unknown. The evidence exist of its prevalence, however, and like its twin associate, iron, it will have to wait future progress for its development.

The long continued absence of transportation has depressed the market valuation of the lands of Franklin county, but they will now come rapidly into notice, and their valuation will be greatly advanced. A healthy climate, excellent farming lands, superior water, and deposits of iron and coal, offer inducements to persons seeking a prosperous section.

Besides, its numerous districts of land which may be purchased at moderate prices, there are in the county 32,040 acres of Government lands, some of which are subject to entry.

MARION COUNTY.

LYING directly south of Franklin is Marion county. It was created in 1818 and named for General Francis Marion. The extensive natural advantages possessed by the county are serving to attract capital and enterprise, and, though not enjoying the transportation facilities of many other counties, it is rapidly coming to the front as one of the most important in the State. It joins Mississippi on the west, and is situated in that portion of the State where some of the richest mineral deposits exist. The county has an area of 810 square miles.

Population in 1880, 9,364; population in 1890, 11,397; white, 10,764; colored, 578.

Area planted in cotton, 14,552 acres; in corn, 22,827 acres; in oats, 2,674 acres; in wheat, 288 acres; in tobacco, 16 acres; cotton production, 4,454 bales.

The surface of the county is, for the most part, broken. The soils are of moderate fertility, and of such variety as to favor a

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diversity of production. In the western portion, near the Mississippi line, the most fertile lands in the county are to be found. These are the cotton lands. It is doubtful whether any county in this portion of Alabama has soils which exceed in fertility those which lie along the western border of the county of Marion. Many excellent farms are found throughout the county. They are mostly located upon the wide extended tablelands which form a prevailing feature. These lands are most desirable, both on account of the generous soil and the favorable position of the surface with respect to drainage. Along these broad tablelands the soil is a red loam. In other sections are found soils which are of a sandy loam of a brown color. The lands which lie along the streams are of a rich dark color. This character of soil extends but a short distance on both sides of the creeks and branches, but are quite desirable because of their fertility and



MARION MILITARY INSTITUTE.

because too of their elevation above the point of overflow. This gives a sense of security to the planter, and his grain rarely fails to come to maturity. The readiness with which the best grasses are produced is attracting the attention of stock-raisers, and many good stock farms are found in different sections of the county. The value of the county as a stock-raising district is further enhanced by the fact that it is favored with a great number of perpetual streams. Indeed, the greater part of Marion county is drained by a single large stream—the Buttahachie River—whose numerous tributaries, flowing from all directions from the lofty tablelands and hillsides, furnish inexhaustible supplies of the purest water. The principal streams of the county are Buttahatchie, Looxapalila and Sipsey Rivers, Beaver, Bull Mountain, and Bear creeks, together with many smaller streams. These streams flow southwest and empty into the Tombigbee. It is

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reasonable to suppose that at some future time some of these streams will serve for purposes of local transportation. In many portions of Marion are to be found extensive forests of timber. Chief among the numerous specimens are short-leaf pine, hickory, post, red and white oaks, sweet and black gum, chestnut, poplar, cherry, beach and bay. Through these hilly forests is to be found much game, especially such as deer and turkeys, and, indeed, all kinds of game usually found in the forests of the South.

In addition to farming and stock-raising the people devote themselves, to a limited degree, to manufacturing. On Bear Creek are two flourishing cotton mills, known as Allen's Factory and the Fall Mills. The former has a capital of $20,000, and the latter $15,000. Both are run by water-power, which serves to illustrate the utility to which these bold mountain streams may be devoted in the manufactures. Beneath the ranges of hills which exist in every section of Marion are considerable deposits of coal, the extent of the prevalence of which is indicated by the outcroppings in every portion of the county. Gold has also been discovered in some sections of Marion. Two railroads have recently been extended through the county, viz: The Kansas City, Memphis & Birmingham, and the Sheffield & Birmingham.

Such is the prevalence of valuable ore in the county that roads will doubtless be built as branches to the main thoroughfares running through the county.

The brace of mountain air everywhere felt is a sure guarantee of health. In no part of the county are there to be encountered pestilential vapors or death-breeding lagoons.

The people, especially about the centers of interest, are fully alive to the importance of education. Good schools are found in every portion of Marion.

Unusual inducements are afforded in this county for investments in land. No matter for what purpose desired, they can now be bought at a figure far below their intrinsic value. Of course, this will cease when the county is more extensively penetrated by railroads. The stock-raiser, the farmer, or the investor in mineral lands, will find it advantageous to examine the inducements offered in Marion county.

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Hamilton, Pikeville, Shottsville, Guinn, Winfield, Darlington and Barnesville are the points of the greatest importance in the county. The first of these is the county seat, which has recently been established, and is said to have one of the best court houses and safest jails in the State.

Extensive tracts of land may now be purchased at figures wonderfully low, even as low as $2 per acre. Anxious to have the material wealth of the county enhanced, the inhabitants of Marion look with great favor upon immigration.

There are in Marion county 50,000 acres of land belonging to the Government.

WINSTON COUNTY.

THE name of this county was changed form that of Hancock in 1858. Under the original name it was organized in 1850.

The county has immense resources of minerals. Within the last year it has attracted considerable attention, which has been mainly due to the construction of the new railroads in the adjoining county of Walker. The Sheffield & Birmingham Railroad penetrates the western portion of Winston. The area of the county is 540 square miles.

Population in 1880, 4,253; population in 1890, 6,552. White, 6,516; colored, 36.

Area planted in cotton, 5,312 acres; in corn, 11,942 acres; in oats, 2,105 acres; in wheat, 255 acres; in rye, 13 acres; in tobacco, 25 acres.

Cotton Production—1,464 bales.

The face of the country throughout Winston is generally much broken. Within the limits of the county, near its western boundary, runs the main ridge which divides the waters of the Warrior and Tombigbee Rivers. This (Byler) ridge cuts the county in twain from north to south.

The farming operations of Winston are carried on mainly in

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the lowlands and creek bottoms, because of the fertility of these soils above those upon the uplands or higher ridges. But little of the land lying along the ridge is cultivated, owing to the thinness of the soils. It is in no sense an agricultural county, although in some portions cotton and corn are quite readily produced. The local industries are farming, stock raising and wool growing. Dairy farming is carried on to a limited extent.

As will appear from the map, Winston county is abundantly supplied with water. These numerous streams, by their confluence, form the chief water-ways of the county—Black Water, Big Bear, Clear and Rock Creeks, and Sipsey and Brushy Forks. The Buttahatchie and New Rivers have their fountain heads amid the wild hills of Winston county. Along the abounding gorges and valleys there rush the multitudinous tributaries which feed these principal streams from many quarters. Winston can not be excelled, perhaps, by any county in the State in the wildness and picturesqueness of its natural scenery. The waters in some instances have worn channels in the sandstones, and often flow through gorges with high, perpendicular sides. In some instances rapids and cataracts are found which fill the solitudes with their loud-sounding thunder. Two of these waterfalls occur in Clear Creek about 300 yards apart. The falls are each about 30 feet. Below the falls the waters dash down a deep, narrow gorge. They are objects of peculiar interest, and will one day attract many sight-seers. "Rock houses," as they are locally named, abound along these streams. In the neighborhood of these rocky caverns are found growing in luxuriance and beauty the rarest ferns known to American florists.

The natural timber growth is composed of post, black, red, white and Spanish oaks, poplar, beech, holly, chestnut, sour gum, and occasionally short-leaf pine. In many parts of Winston the forests are as yet untouched, and hence abound in many fine specimens of the timber already named. This is especially true of the lands which lie adjacent to creeks in the bottoms.

One of the chief attractions of the county is its abundant game. Turkeys and deer abound in every portion of Winston, and hunters resort thither from the adjoining counties. Most excellent fish, too, are found in the numerous streams.

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The county is exceedingly rich in its mineral properties. The extent of these deposits is as yet unknown, but it is believed that no portion of Alabama, of the same compass, will excel the county of Winston in its mineral resources.

Vast quantities of coal underlie the hills, and iron ore is abundant. In some sections a superior quality of slate is found, and in large quantities.

There are several asphalt springs in the county. Heavy deposits of copper are also found. Building stone is abundant. Near the town of Double Springs there are two large quarries of granite. Fine millstone grit is also obtainable. There are now and then traces of silver.

These slumbering resources only await the construction of railway lines in order to find their way into the markets of the world. The construction of the Georgia Pacific Railroad through Walker county has given new life to Winston. This road is the main artery of communication between the cities of Birmingham and Atlanta. Unusual inducements are thus presented to immigrants and investors. Lands may be purchased at moderate prices, being in proportion to the demand in different sections. They can now be bought in some portions of the county at prices ranging from $3 to $5 per acre; in other sections they will cost from $10 to $25 per acre.

The educational advantages of Winston are moderately good and are improving. Church facilities abound in the populated sections.

The places of greatest interest are Double Springs (the county seat), Houston, Littlesville, Motes, Delma, Ark and Larissa. Double Springs derives its name from the remarkable springs which issue from the hillsides in the locality where it is situated.

They are famous for their great number, their purity and boldness.

In the county there are 82,740 acres of government land.

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WALKER COUNTY.

THE county of Walker was established in 1824. It is attracting remarkable attention at this time by reason of its immense resources of coal. From present indications, Walker is the richest of all the counties of the State in its mineral deposits. It seems to be almost an unbroken coal field from limit to limit. The coal is of a hard, bituminous character with but small percentage of ash. Various geological reports point to the existence of five or six valuable seams, which lie in successive layers one above another. There are various outcroppings, indicating from the surface, seams of superior coal which vary in thickness from two to eight feet. These coals are valuable for domestic, cooking and steam purposes. Remoteness of transportation has forbidden the establishment of mines in the past, but the construction of the Georgia Pacific is awakening new life, and the completion of the Sheffield & Birmingham, and the Kansas City, Memphis & Birmingham railroads, running from Kansas City to the Atlantic, has greatly enhanced the value of Walker county lands. The surface of the country is broken, the hills in some places being steep and high.

Aside from its mineral possessions, the county has other advantages, as the following data will at once show.

Walker county embraces an area of 880 square miles.

Population in 1880, 9,479; population in 1890, 16,078. White, 14,422; colored, 1,656.

Area planted in cotton, 9,466 acres; in corn, 25,169 acres; in oats, 4,524 acres; in wheat, 15 acres; in rye, 10 acres; in tobacco, 41 acres.

Cotton Production—3,211 bales.

Like the adjoining county of Winston, the soils of Walker are not remarkable for their fertility, it being in nowise an agricultural county, but adapted almost solely to manufactures. Still, it is not without fertile lands. Snug farms are found in many portions of it, and many of its inhabitants have subsisted upon the

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productions of their farms since, and even before, the formation of the county.

About one-third of the area of Walker is covered with a sandy soil. This land is admirably suited to the production of fruit, which grows here in great abundance, especially such as the hardy fruits—pears, apples, peaches, plums, etc. Fruit trees have been standing in many orchards for a great number of years, and have rarely failed of an annual yield. In other sections of Walker, especially in those lying adjacent to the main streams, there are many thrifty farms, upon which grow, with great readiness, corn, cotton and wheat.

This is also true of what are locally termed "the bench lands" —the plateau regions of the county. Here are many first-class farms, which are easily tilled, and whose cultivation is most remunerative. Stock-raising is receiving some attention in the county, and the experiments have resulted most gratifyingly.

The county is highly flavored with streams, whose rapid and perpetual flow mark them for future usefulness in the manufactures. Chief among these are Mulberry Fork, which flows through the southeast, and joins Locust Fork in the south; the Black Water, Sipsey Fork and Lost creeks. These are supplied by numerous tributaries, which drain the county from every quarter. As fine timber forests skirt these streams as are found in the northern portion of the State. These embrace the different varieties of oak, post, red and Spanish, together with beech, poplar, holly, the gums and short-leaf pine. In the neighborhood of South Lowell, about six miles from Jasper, the county seat, there is a section of long-leaf pine forest, covering an area of about ten miles broad and twenty-five miles long. This superb tract of timber is penetrated by the Black Water River, the banks of which are lined by thriving manufactories, such as corn, wheat and lumber mills and cotton gins. Chief among these thriving enterprises is the mill of Messrs. Shields, Craig & Carter, which combines all the facilities for the manufacture of lumber, doors, blinds, sash and shingles. This is the only factory in the county, and furnishes, to the local trade alone, half a million feet of lumber annually.

The passage of the Georgia Pacific through the county has

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awakened much interest. The Sheffield & Birmingham Railroad is also a most important thoroughfare. Through these great channels of trade her rich minerals of coal and iron seek outlets to the world beyond. These minerals are considered practically inexhaustible. In the interior of the basin in Walker county is the Jagger's coalbed, which is said to be one of exceeding thickness.

Throughout the county the educational advantages are moderate, and church facilities abound. Both of these improve as one approaches the principal villages. Jasper, the county seat, with a population of 3,000, has good schools and two comfortable church edifices. Holly Grove and South Lowell are also points of interest and growing importance.

Like other counties, the resources of which are being rapidly developed, the people of Walker are anxious to have their lands purchased and populated.

Great inducements are just now being offered to purchasers of lands, and sagacious investors are not losing the opportunity of turning the occasion to one of profit. In some instances corporations have invested in large districts of these valuable lands at amazingly low prices. Taken in connection with the abundance of fuel and good water, and the absence of any causes which breed disease, Walker offers a home of rare combinations. And, from a commercial point of view, no county offers greater inducements than does Walker. But lands which are now held at reasonable rates will increase in valuation as the growing population will crystalize into centers of interest and influence.

There are embraced within the limits of Walker connty 11,200 acres of government land.

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CULLMAN COUNTY.

THIS is one of the counties latest formed in the State. It was organized in 1877. It has an interesting history which begins as far back as 1873, when John G. Cullman became the agent for the sale of a vast tract of land belonging to the South & North Alabama Railroad, now the Louisville & Nashville. Placing these lands upon the market in January, 1873, Mr. Cullman, himself a German, induced a small German colony to locate upon them. At this time the lands were uncleared and seemed to offer but meagre inducements to settlers. But the tide of German population has continued to flow in until it is one of the most populous districts in that section of the State. The county has an area of about 650 square miles.

Population in 1880, 6,355; in 1890, 13,439. White, 13,401; colored, 38. The population will now reach 13,500.

Area planted in cotton, 15,992 acres; in corn, 20,808 acres; in oats, 4,035 acres; in wheat, 351 acres; in rye, 147 acres; in tobacco, 35 acres.

Cotton Production—About 730 bales.

In appearance the lands are among the thinnest of the State. But energy and enterprise have revealed the fact that they are quite generous in their yield when aided, to some extent, with fertilizers. For the most part, the white sandy surface has a deep, stiff subsoil of clay. The sandy surface is easy of cultivation. The soils, when properly manipulated, never fail to respond well to fertilizers. The county is one broad mountain plateau and is consequently almost without exception level. Crops of nearly every variety are produced upon these lands, such as corn, cotton, wheat, rye, barley, oats, buckwheat, hemp, tobacco, flax, sorghum, broom corn, sweet and Irish potatoes, hops, millet, peanuts, clover and other grasses, and garden vegetables. Frequently three crops in rotation can be raised in a single season. The large German population has addressed itself mainly to the culture of the different varieties of grapes, and for leagues in

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some directions the lands are overspread with the most luxuriant vintage.

Throughout the county there are vast stretches of forest sufficient for building and manufacturing purposes.

Orchards of excellent fruit trees abound. Among the fruits produced are apples, pears, peaches, apricots, strawberries and German prunes, while wild grapes, plums and berries grow abundantly.

In several portions of Cullman are found iron and coal. Lead and silver have also been discovered. Both on the east and west there are large streams which bound the county—the Mulberry Fork on the east and the Sipsey Fork on the west. The county is drained by these large streams. An abundance of water exists.

Because of its elevation and other sanitary advantages, Cullman is said to be one of the healthiest sections in the United States. Epidemics are unknown here, and local sickness is quite rare. The heat of summer is not oppressive, and the nights throughout the warm season are pleasantly cool.

The town of Cullman is a point of great interest. Ten years ago there was scarcely the trace of a town to be seen. Now there is a population of perhaps 2,200 with good hotels, mills, wagon factories, blacksmith shops, a lime-kiln and brick-yard, barrel manufactories, and furniture factories. Here are to be found good school and church facilities. The town is located directly upon the great Louisville & Nashville Railway system, which gives it advantages with New Orleans on the south and Louisville and Cincinnati on the north. People in large numbers come from all the surrounding country to do their trading with the merchants of Cullman.

The prices of land in Cullman county vary with their distance from the railroad. By reason of its remarkable healthfulness and diversity of industrial interests. Cullman county presents more than ordinary inducements to the immigrant or investor.

Cullman county sufficiently indicates what may be done by a vigorous, wide-awake colony. And its handsome farms and landscapes of vintage abundantly show what an amazing transformation can be produced by a thrifty colony whose efforts are intelligently directed. And in addition still, the county clearly

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demonstrates the capabilities of lands that have long been regarded by our people as possessing small worth.

To have glanced over the sand-colored district where the bustling little city of Cullman now is, prior to its settlement by the German colony, one would have thought its lands too thin and barren to respond even to the most irksome toil, and the most careful fertilization. But under the direction of skilled owners, it has proved to be one of the most desirable sections of Alabama. The population is contented and prosperous, and is being, from time to time, increased by new acquisitions, both from America and Europe.

In addition to the many cheap lands found in Cullman county there are 15,000 acres of land belonging to the government.

BLOUNT COUNTY.

THIS county was formed in 1818, and named in honor of Governor Wm. G. Blount, of Tennessee. It is noted for the abundance of its minerals, the diversity of its soils, the variety of its productions and mineral waters. In its progress it is keeping pace with the surrounding counties, and is ranked among the best in the State. Its area is 700 square miles.

Population in 1880, 15,369; population in 1890, 21,927. White, 20,155; colored, 1,772.

Area planted in cotton, 28,532 acres; in corn, 37,771 acres; in oats, 10,175 acres; in wheat, 1,329 acres; in rye, 39 acres; in tobacco, 28 acres; cotton production, 9,748 bales.

The face of the country in Blount is rather peculiar. It is penetrated through the center by a plateau which occupies a belt from eight to ten miles in width. On one side of this mountain plateau, running parallel with it, is Murphree's Valley, while on the opposite side is Brown's Valley. Along this belt of plateau are found excellent farming lands, which have been wonderfully assisted during the last few years by the moderate use of fertili-

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zers. Cotton grows most readily upon this broad upland, especially if a little assisted with fertilizers.

Because of the greater ease of cultivation, the farmers of the county have come, in many instances, to prefer these elevated soils to those of the valleys for cotton producing purposes. As pasture lands these cannot be excelled in the county. There is a combination of elements here that favor the raising of stock, among which may be mentioned an adequate supply of water and soils favorable to the growth of clovers and grasses. Perhaps a better section than this plateau can not be found in Alabama for the production of fruits. As fine apples and peaches grow here as are produced in the South. Indeed, Blount has the reputation of being the best apple-growing section on the continent. The character of the climate is such as to favor a certain crop almost annually. It is very rare that the fruit crop is cut off by frosts. The valley lands are intrinsically more fertile than those which lie along the broad plateau.

The soils of both the valleys are, in some instances, as rich as those which belong to the famous Tennessee Valley. Even along these valleys there are flinty ridges which break the evenness of the lands, but between these exist the most productive soils. The most of the cotton raised in Blount is grown upon the loamy valleys. In addition to corn and cotton, the county produces oats, wheat, tobacco, sweet potatoes, rye and sorghum.

It has for several years produced a great deal of wool, and as stock-raising increases, there is no doubt that this product will correspondingly increase.

The main streams of Blount are Mulberry, Locust and Blackburn Forks, and Big Spring Creek.

The principal timbers are beech, walnut, poplar, sycamore, post and Spanish oaks, hickory, wild cherry, pine and black-gum.

The county took the premium at the Atlanta Exposition for the largest and finest specimens of wild cherry. Vast districts of the county are overspread with forests of timber.

Transportation is afforded through the medium of the great Louisville & Nashville Railroad, which traverses it from the north to the south. Another railroad is in contemplation and is expected soon to be built from Birmingham to Guntersville on the

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Tennessee River. This road will penetrate the heart of the famous Murphree's Valley, and along its route, from one terminal point to the other, will prevail vast deposits both of coal and iron. The road will prove of incalculable advantage to the population residing in the region through which it will pass. Such is the attractiveness of this region that it will serve speedily to allure a population as soon as its resources of mine and soil are known.

Excellent school and church facilities exist in almost every portion of the county. Blountsville, the seat of justice, Bangor, Summit, Hanceville and Garden City are places of importance. Both at Blountsville and Bangor there are colleges of local importance. The industries of the county are varied. Extensive limeworks are seen at Blount Springs. Limestone dug from the quarries here is daily shipped in large quantities to Birmingham, where the manufacturers hold it in repute above any other available limestone. It prevails in inexhaustible stores in hills about Blount Springs. Coal and iron are abundant in the county. Petroleum is also found. Enjoying, as it does, facilities for transportation to the markets of the South, North and all points in the far Northwest, nothing prevents Blount from taking rank with the foremost counties of the State.

Blount Springs, situated immediately upon the Louisville & Nashville Railroad, is the favorite watering place of Alabama. These famous springs are 130 miles north of Montgomery, and are embosomed in the most picturesque mountain scenery. The waters are especially adapted to the cure of scrofula, rheumatism, dyspepsia and all affections of the bladder and urinary organs.

Here, as in the adjoining counties which lie along the railroad, the value of the lands diminishes as they recede from the line of communication. Land can be purchased in the county at prices ranging from $5 to $35 per acre. There are 5,140 acres of Government land in Blount county.

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JEFFERSON COUNTY.

THIS county leads all the other counties of the Mineral Belt in the development of its resources and in the progress which it is making in the manufactures. For several years past it has been a scene of bustle and business, extensive mining and manufacturing interests having sprung into existence in every part of the county. By reason of its advancement, it is annually attracting to itself yet other agencies which contribute to its growth. Every year it takes a new stride forward, and its county-seat, Birmingham, is destined to be one of the leading manufacturing centers of the South.

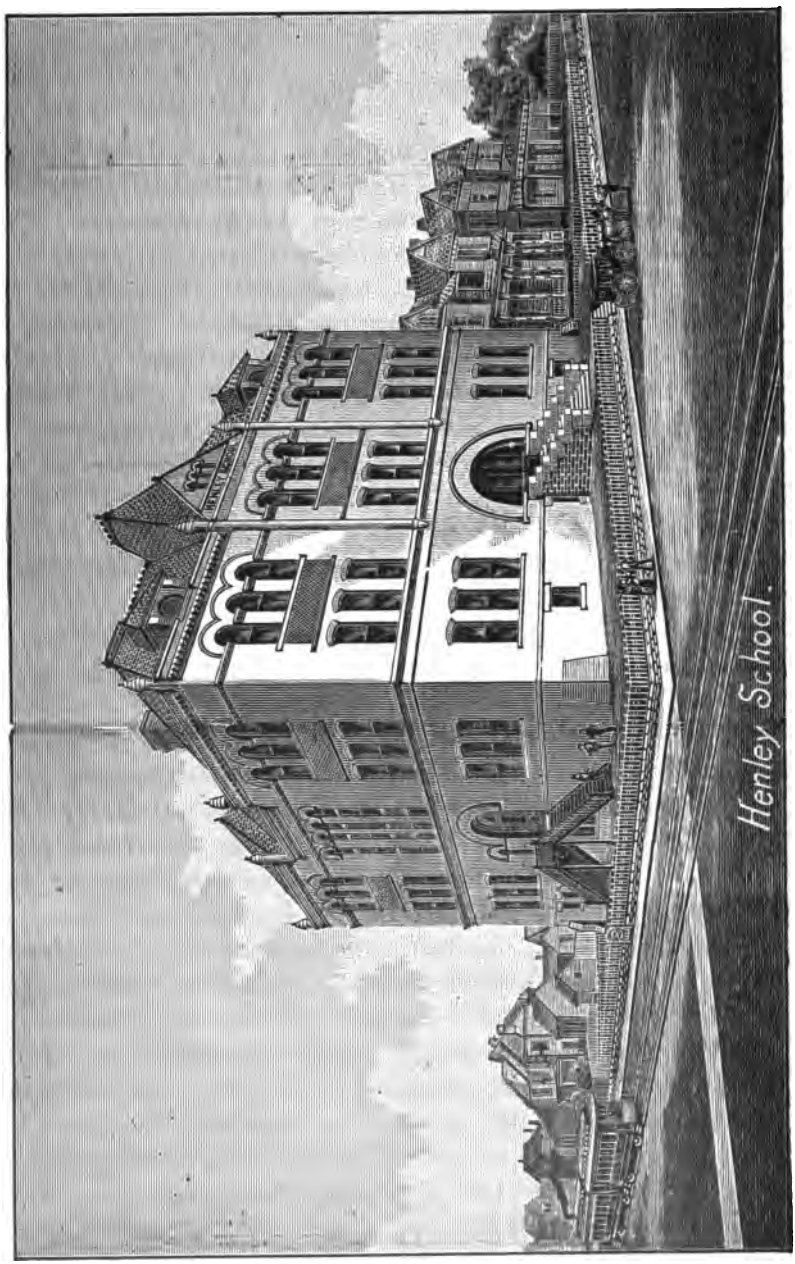
Jefferson county has an area of 960 square miles.

Population in 1880, 32,272; population in 1890, 88,501; white, 56,334; colored, 32,167.

Area planted in cotton, 11,790 acres; in corn, 30,398 acres; in oats, 7,708 acres; in wheat, 316 acres; in rye, 1 acre; in tobacco, 7 acres; cotton production, 4,829 bales.

Jefferson county is cut into two unequal divisions by a long, narrow valley which traverses it from northeast to southwest. Directly northwest of this valley, and embracing nearly two-thirds of the territory of the county, are the coal measures of the great Warrior coalfield, while in the southern part of the county are the coal measures of the Cahaba field. Here, as elsewhere, the soil is dependent upon the character of the underlying rock—increasing or diminishing in richness with the fertility or sterility of rocks beneath. In the main, the soil in these regions is of moderate fertility. The surface of the county is broken and often mountainous. Upon the table-lands the soil is moderately productive, while in the valleys it is quite rich. Along the slopes are grown the grasses and cereals, while the valleys are largely devoted to the production of corn and cotton. Jones Valley is regarded the richest section of the county. It has a mulatto soil based upon a red clay subsoil. Along this valley

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are found prevailing limestone springs, the waters of which are pure, clear and cold.

The productions of the county are cotton, corn, wheat, oats, barley, rye, potatoes (sweet and Irish), and peanuts. Garden vegetables of every possible variety thrive almost the year around. The fruits which are grown in Jefferson county have made Birmingham one of the leading fruit markets of the State. Peaches, apples, plums, pears, apricots, pomegranates and grapes are raised in great profusion, and mature to perfection even with indolent culture. Vast sums of money are annually accumulated by fruit growers and vegetable producers in the country surrounding Birmingham. There is scarcely an industry manipulated by man but has an existence in the county of Jefferson.

Stock-raising is receiving attention and will grow apace with the years, as the soil and climate favor the production of grasses and clovers, and the numerous competing railway lines will furnish the speediest transportation to the most favorable markets of the continent. In addition to this, the county is well watered. Locust Fork of the Black Water River flows through the northwest, receiving Five Mile, Village and Valley creeks. The southern and southeastern parts of the county are drained through Shades' Creek, which flows into the Cahaba River.

In every section are to be found forests of pine, oak, ash, hickory, elm, walnut and other valuable woods.

The mineral products of the county are simply marvelous. From present indications the resources of the county will not be exhausted for centuries to come. Mammoth fortunes have been dug from the rocky hills, and yet they seem barely touched by the invading pick-axe. Coal and iron seem to abound in exhaustless quantities. A better estimate of the abundance of these minerals will be had by glancing at the following table of local industries in and about the Magic City, Birmingham:

Pratt Coal & Coke Company's mines are situated six miles northwest of Birmingham; population about 5,000; capacity, 3,000 tons per diem; employs over 1,000 men and boys. This is the most extensively worked mine in Alabama. Colonel E. Ensley, President.

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Miner Coal & Iron Company; eight miles northeast; capacity 1,000 tons per day; employs 500 men.

Eureka Iron Company, Oxmoor, six miles south; population exceeds 1,500; furnace number one, capacity, 60 tons per day; furnace number two, capacity, 100 tons per day; employs about 600 men.

Wheeling, Alabama; eight miles southwest; capacity of furnace, 125 tons daily; employs 350 men, and has six miles of railroad to mines.

The New Castle Coal & Coke Company, twelve miles above Birmingham; number of men employed and capacity not given; daily output, about 500 tons.

Alice Furnace Company; furnace number one, 70 tons capacity daily; furnace number two, 125 tons capacity daily; employs more than 500 men; capital, $500,000; T. T. Hillman, President.

Sloss Furnace Company; furnace number one, 80 tons capacity daily; furnace number two, 125 tons capacity daily; employs 600 men; capital, $500,000; J. W. Sloss, President.

Mary Pratt Furnace; DeBardaleben & Underwood, proprietors; charcoal iron furnace; capacity, 60 tons per day; employs 500 men.

Birmingham Rolling Mills Company; twenty-four puddling furnaces, muck mill, merchant bar, large mill and guide mill; employs 450 to 500 men, double turn.

Southern Mining & Transportation Company; capacity, 1,000 tons per day; employs 500 men.

Birmingham Cotton Mills; capital stock, $50,000; use 3,250 spindles, 15 carders and 6 warping mills; employs 70 operators; J. H. Lockhart, President.

Magic City Iron Works; foundry and machine shop; employ 100 men; Beggs & Son, proprietors, who also conduct a planing, mill and sash and blind factory.

Linn Iron Works; manufacture engines, boilers, and all kinds of furnace, mill and plantation machinery; employ 150 to 200 men.

Jefferson Iron Works; same as above; employ about 200 men.

W. P. Brewer; manufactures lumber, sash, doors, blinds and furniture; employs 65 to 100 men.

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The Louisville & Nashville Railroad Company's workshops at Birmingham give employment to over 1,000 men.

The Georgia Pacific Railway Company employs about 500 men; the Alabama Great Southern and various mineral roads give employment to perhaps 500 additional.

It has besides the furnaces and industries already named the following enterprises:

The largest and best equipped rolling mills south of Richmond, making iron rails and all sorts of bar, plate and sheet-iron—being the only mills in the South that makes sheet-iron—and selling their product all over the South, West and Northwest.

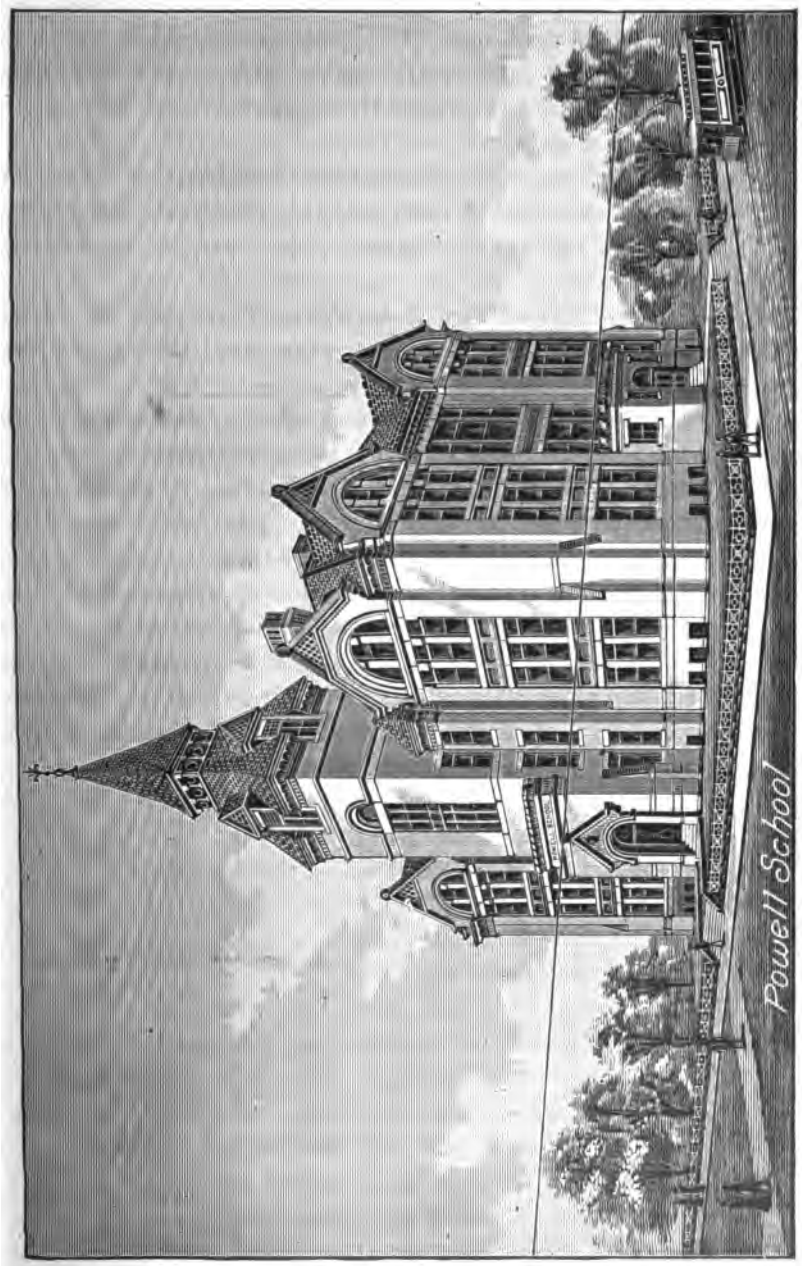
Eight foundries and machine shops, making from blowing engines for furnaces down—machinery, steam-pumps, cast-pipe, jail-cells, railroad-frogs, switches and turn-tables, and all manner of small castings. Bridge-works, two in number, one of which makes bolts and nuts also. A chain factory, the first in the South. A stove foundry, making also grates and plumbers' pipe. Another in course of construction, for which the capital comes from Louisville, and which will probably be the largest in the South.

Outside of iron there are these enterprises in the city: A gin factory, a cotton compress, now building; an agricultural implement factory, an ice factory, the capacity of which is to be increased from fifteen to forty-five tons a day; another under way; a brewery, a large flouring mill, pipe works, the largest consumer of pig iron in the South, taking the entire product of two large furnaces—the first venture of Pittsburg manufacturers in Alabama; elevator and hoisting machinery works, a tool factory, a very large stove concern.

The manufacture of the finest steel has been undertaken with the same success which has characterized every other institution established at this point. It would be practically impossible within the space allotted to Jefferson county to indicate the numerous industries large and small, prevailing within and about Birmingham.

This great city, which is alike the wonder of the resident and visitor, will no doubt in ten years have drawn to itself a population of 70,000. In addition to its mammoth industries which are

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barely hinted at above, the city can boast of as handsome residences and hotels as any city in the South.

Its public school buildings, its handsome church edifices, its street railway system, its electric lights and attractive public parks show that the city is not wholly engrossed with the spirit of accumulation of gain.

As one passes along the spacious streets and broad avenues, he is struck with amazement at every step, when he remembers that only a few years ago the spot which it now occupies was a cast-away old field.

While Col. McClure of the *Philadelphia Times* was *en route* to the New Orleans Exposition, three years ago, he wrote thus concerning Birmingham:

"Three trunk railway lines cross each other in this city, giving it the best railway facilities of any interior Southern center, excepting those of Atlanta. These lines, extending by main routes to the gulf, to the coast, to the east, to the lakes, and to the west, and reaching every part of the country by their connections and tributaries, furnish rare facilities for the development of the wealth that abounds here; and new and important railway lines are soon to be added to them. And when it is considered that as railway outlets multiply, the great river highway of the Warrior will be hastened to completion, the business possibilities of this region would seem incredible to the North, even when cautiously stated. Through the kindness of the Mayor and the President of the Board of Trade, I was enabled to visit and thoroughly examine the great coal mines and iron establishments which have created Birmingham, and the universal activity and unerring signs of prosperous operations present a marked contrast with our coal and iron regions in the North.

"There is a furnace here on a farm that furnishes everything necessary to make iron—the iron ore, coal, limestone and sand—but the great beds of iron, coal and limestone are in a radius of four or five miles. That these exhaustless sources of wealth in such close proximity must soon defy competition in the product of the ordinary iron, I regard as no longer a doubtful problem; but it is yet doubtful whether the competition can extend to the better qualities of iron and steel. The manufacture of steel has

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not been attempted as yet, and while it is claimed that it will soon be produced here at the same relative cost as iron and equal in quality to the steel of Pennsylvania, I feel no assurance that it can be done at all. The faith of the iron men of Birmingham is so strong in its resources that they confidently claim everything for it possessed by any other iron district of the world, even to the blades of Damascus; but here, as elsewhere in all the world, there will be material limitations upon the perfection of iron products."

Since that time the change has been so great that the distinguished Philadelphian would scarcely recognize the same city could he visit it now. The city limits have been greatly extended, the most expensive and attractive buildings have been erected, the population has been vastly increased, extensive dummy lines have been established so as to reach out in every possible direction, extending sometimes the distance of fifteen miles, important railroads have been built and large suburban interests have grown up. Instead of the three railway trunk lines, to which allusion is made, there are now five, viz: Louisville & Nashville, Queen & Crescent, Georgia Pacific, Kansas City, Memphis & Birmingham, and Columbus & Western. Besides these there are extensions from the great systems which penetrate the regions adjacent to Birmingham in all directions. About Birmingham, as a common center, there have sprung up many

SUBURBAN TOWNS.

Among these may be mentioned Avondale, with a population of 2,000, with its furnaces, stove-works and other improvements. Its connection with the city is by rail, street car and dummy lines.

Woodlawn is another town which, by its healthful and attractive location and its railroad facilities, has won the admiration of all visitors. It is about four miles east of Birmingham, has a population of 1,500, and is situated upon the Alabama Great Southern, Georgia Pacific, and Columbus & Western railroads. By dummy line, passage to the city may be secured every few minutes. It is most attractive as a place of residence.

Between the two last named points is located the Birmingham Safe and Lock Factory.

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East Lake, six miles distant from the city, is a most picturesque town, which shows alike the undulations of the foot hills of the neighboring mountains and the grassy smoothness of Ruhama Valley. Its water is from crystal mountain springs, pure and healthful. It has a charming artificial lake of thirty acres, handsome residences, and is the location of Howard College—the Baptist institution of the State, and the Atheneum, a superior college for girls and young women. It has connection with Birmingham by dummy transit. It is being rapidly peopled by an intelligent population, attracted hither largely by the excellent educational advantages enjoyed.

Lake View is a resort for rest and pleasure, though it has an excellent school for the education of young women, being provided with an immense hotel, a romantic artificial lake, for boating and bathing purposes, and extensive grounds for out-door sports.

Bessemer.

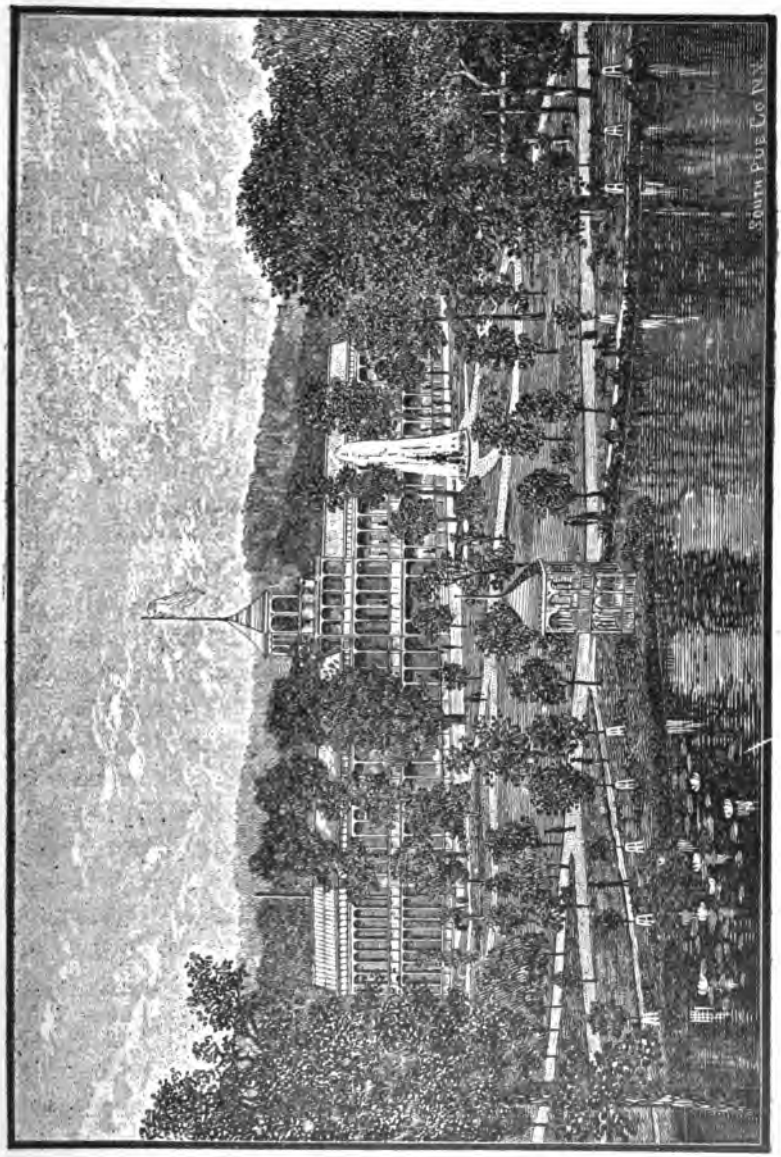
This is a city of scarcely more than a year's growth. It is situated upon the Alabama Great Southern Railroad of the Queen & Crescent system, and is about fourteen miles southwest of Birmingham. Already it has a population of 2,500, and its broad and well graded streets, its attractive architecture, its furnaces and adjacent mines, and its dummy and railway system give promise of vast possibilities.

Several railway lines are already projected, and it is believed that they will be speedily constructed.

The transportation facilities of the county are unexcelled, as it is penetrated by five of the grand railway thoroughfares of the South, viz: Louisville & Nashville, Alabama Great Southern, the Kansas City, Memphis & Birmingham, the Georgia Pacific and the Columbus & Western. Other important lines are being turned in this direction, and some of these will seek Birmingham as a terminal point. Besides these there are many extensions from the main trunk lines.

Excellent church and educational advantages prevail in all the points named in the county, while throughout the country districts a common school system is sustained.

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VIEW AT EAST LAKE.

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SOUTHERN FEMALE UNIVERSITY.

The Southern Female University, situated at Lakeview, Birmingham, Ala., is 150 feet above the city, elegantly furnished, heated by steam, electric lights and electric bells. Supplied throughout with pure water. Boats of latest improvement on lake for use of pupils. Beautiful lawn tennis grounds. Finest Natatorium in the country. Chalybeate spring water, equal to those of Virginia and Germany. Over twenty States represented this scholastic year. Faculty first-class in every particular. Moral tone of school is all that could be desired.

EAST LAKE ATHENEUM.

The East Lake Atheneum is a college founded by Dr. Solomon Palmer for the higher education of young ladies. It is situated at East Lake, a delightful residence suburb of Birmingham, with which it has reliable communication by dummies every thirty minutes. It was chartered with ample powers by the Legislature of 1890–91. It did not secure its new and handsome building until 1892–93. This building as shown here is one of the prettiest in the State, and occupies a commanding site on Atheneum Eminence, which overlooks the city six miles distant and all the surrounding country. The building is constructed of stone taken from a quarry not a mile distant, and of pressed bricks. It is heated throughout by steam and has a chapel, recitation, dining and bed rooms, to accommodate 150 or 200 pupils. In fact it has averaged an enrollment of two hundred pupils ever since founded in 1890. It has some ten or twelve regular teachers all experienced and specially fitted for the work required of them. Besides the literary department special facilities are offered for music, both instrumental and vocal, art, elocution and stenography. The



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Atheneum will soon be one of the leading educational institutions of the South.

LANDS.

Lands may be purchased in the county for prices ranging from $2.50 to $50 per acre. Much as the inhabitants are engaged in the development of this amazing section, they are never unmindful of the stranger seeking a home in their midst.

Government lands exist in Jefferson county to the extent of 9,920 acres of mineral lands.

SHELBY COUNTY.

THE county of Shelby was constituted in the year 1818. It received its name from Governor Isaac Shelby, of Kentucky. It is highly favored in location, climate and mineral wealth. It is justly ranked as one of the best counties of the State. Of late, rapid strides have been made in Shelby county in the development of her mineral wealth. Large interests of many kinds have been established and are in a thrifty condition. It has an area of 780 square miles.

Population in 1880, 17,236; population in 1890, 20,886. White, 14,289; colored, 6,597.

Area planted in cotton, 17,392 acres; in corn, 24,418; in oats, 5,955 acres; in wheat, 536 acres; in tobacco, 10 acres; in rye, 13 acres.

Cotton production—7,238 bales.

The general surface of Shelby county is hilly and rough—features inseparable from a mineral district. Still, there are many valuable lands, for agricultural purposes, to be found. The northwestern portion of the county is formed by the coal measures of the famous Cahaba coal field; the central part by those of the Coosa coal field. Lying between these two natural divisions is the valley of the Coosa. Along these coal measures is to be found the usual rugged surface, and the soil is of a sandy character and

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not very fertile. The Coosa Valley, which extends the distance of thirty miles through the county, is based upon mountain limestone. It varies in width from two to eight miles. The lower valley lands, formed of lime, clay and vegetable matter, are quite fertile; the higher lands of gravel and clay are of inferior character. The lands in the valleys are esteemed altogether as good as those found in the famous Valley of the Tennessee. Corn and cotton grow luxuriantly here, and their yield, under favoring circumstances, is immense. In addition to these, Shelby produces oats, wheat, rye, barley, and indeed all crops grown in this latitude. Some portions of the county are peculiarly adapted to stock-raising. This is especially true of the region lying west of the valley already described.

On the western boundary of the county is the Cahaba Valley, the width of which varies as does that of the Coosa upon the east. The characteristics of soil are the same as in the valley first mentioned—fertile in the bottoms and thin and gravelly upon the highlands.

The conditions in many portions of Shelby are quite favorable to the production of fruit, and orchard culture is receiving, by degrees, more attention.

The prevailing timbers are oak, hickory, chestnut, mulberry and pine. Along the numerous valleys that intersect each other throughout the county is to be found the short-leaf pine; while the knolls and uplands are crowned with the long-leaf pine. During the greater part of the year water prevails in vast abundance in every section of the county.

The Coosa river forms the eastern boundary and receives the drainage of that portion of Shelby. Big and Little Cahaba Rivers drain the western part.

Springs abound throughout the county. Issuing from beneath the pine-crowned ridges, that lie between the minor intersecting valleys, or else bursting from thousands of craggy mouths from the rocky hillsides, these springs flow down through the valleys in perennial streams, supplying water in richest abundance to man and beast.

But the peculiar glory of Shelby is her broad domains of coal and iron, her vast treasures of stone, and her health-giving min-

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eral waters. Extensive manufactories of iron exist at the Shelby Iron Works, which have been in successful operation for thirty years, and at Helena, where are located the Central Iron Works. In addition to these interests are found the Helena coal mines, and the Montevallo coal mines. Furthermore, there are considerable lime works at Calera, Siluria and Longview, in the county. Some of these furnish lime as far south as Galveston, and as far north as Louisville and Cairo. Between Shelby Springs and the Coosa River is an extensive slate formation which, when explored, will no doubt furnish fine roofing slate in abundance.

In some of the limestone formations are to be found as superb building stone as exists in any quarter of the globe. Among these may be mentioned a light grayish-blue rock, dotted over with dark spots, black marble, yellow marble with black spots, gray and dove-colored marbles. These are quite durable, and serve admirably as ornamental building material. In the mountains, between the upper portion of Shelby and the St. Clair portion of the Cahaba Valley, there is, in wonderful abundance, a beautiful sandstone that would serve for building purposes. Barytes and slate also exist.

Just above Calera, on the East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia Railroad are the Shelby Springs, a favorite watering resort. The location is high and healthful, and the waters have valuable medicinal properties.

The advantages of transportation in the county are excellent. At Calera there is an intersection of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad, and the East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia Railroad. The former of these lines runs north and south through the county, and the other almost east and west. All the benefits accruing from competing lines are here afforded.

The points of greatest interest in the county are Columbiana, the county seat, with a population of about 800; Calera, which is located at the intersection of the two railroads already mentioned; Wilsonville, Harpersville, Helena, Montevallo and Shelby, population 1,200. This is the most thriving place in the county. It has two large furnaces and a number of prosperous business houses. Excellent church and educational facilities exist at all

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these points. A common school system under favorable direction exists throughout the county.

The chief center of interest in the county is the growing town of Calera. Its name is of Spanish origin, and indicates the character of the surrounding region. *Calera* being the Spanish word for lime. It has a population possibly of 1,200, and for a number of years has been the location of a large foundry.

The town supports good schools and churches, and has one of the best hotels in the State. It is located in the midst of coal, iron, lime and excellent timber, and enjoys railroad facilities in all directions, being at the intersection of the Louisville & Nashville and East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia Railroads.

Throughout the county of Shelby there abound the facilities of human comfort, so great are the advantages of climate and the diversity of soils and mineral products.

Lands may be purchased at prices ranging from $2.50 to $25 per acre.

There exist 3,320 acres of government land in the county.

TALLADEGA COUNTY.

TALLADEGA receives its name from two Indian words, *tallafow*, a town, and *to kee*, hills. It is separated from Shelby county by the Coosa River. For delightful scenery Talladega county, perhaps, leads every other in the State. While it has rugged mountains in all their native wildness, it has vast stretches of valley loveliness, dotted over with neat and thrifty farms, blending in a most charming manner the useful and the beautiful. Some portions of Talladega county will compare favorably with the famous Shenandoah Valley of Virginia.

It has an area of 700 square miles.

Population in 1880, 23,360; population in 1890, 29,345. White, 15,399; colored, 13,947.

Area planted in cotton, 38,588 acres; in corn, 37,117 acres; in

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oats, 9,670 acres; in wheat, 2,225 acres; in rye, 171 acres; in tobacco, 6 acres.

Cotton Production—15,686 bales.

Talladega county lies between a range of high hills on the east, and the Coosa River on the west. The prevailing soil is red, which fact is due to the presence of iron in almost every part of the county. This is the most productive soil found in this region. The valley lands east of the mountain ranges constitute the most attractive part of Talladega county, and it would be difficult to find anywhere a section which has greater natural advantages than the belt of country lying east of the East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia Railroad, and extending as far south as the Kahatchee Hills. These broad and fertile valleys are interrupted here and there by ranges of forest-covered mountains and hills, while an occasional stream of exceeding beauty lends additional charm to the scene.

The most diversified farming is carried on in every part of the county, and with the most gratifying success. Cotton, corn, oats, and rye are the principal crops. Every vegetable that grows in the Temperate Zone is produced here. They thrive almost the year around. Fruits grow to wonderful perfection, especially apples, peaches, pears and grapes. The soil and climate seem peculiarly suited to the growth of grapes. The attention which has been given grape culture has been, in a number of instances, abundantly rewarded. Indeed, fruits of every variety flourish in these soils. Strawberries, raspberries, figs and melons will inevitably yield in proportion to the attention bestowed. All these products find a ready outlet through the different channels of commerce afforded by the railroads, which traverse several parts of the county.

Talladega is streaked here and there by perennial streams, almost all of which have their sources in the mountain ranges in the east, and flow entirely across the county to the Coosa River, which forms its extreme western boundary. Tallasseehatchee, Chehawhaw, Choccolocco, Blue Eye, Talladega and Clear Creeks are the main streams.

In every part of the county, perpetual springs gush from the hill ranges, many of which are freestone, while others are again

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impregnated with iron, sulphur and other minerals. Near the eastern border of the county, below the Kahatchee Hills, is found the well-known Sulphur Spring. It is said to possess the most attractive surroundings of all the watering places in Alabama.

One of the coming industries of the county will be stock-raising, as the greatest inducements to this pursuit exist in abundance. Luxuriant grasses and wild clovers grow spontaneously, and when cultivated they are quite fine. This consideration, taken in connection with the prevalence of perpetual streams, makes it a most desirable section for this branch of industry, which is just now assuming such proportions in the South.

Within the limits of Talladega are found extensive forests of splendid timber. These forests embrace a great variety of timber, consisting of yellow or long-leaf pine, the different varieties of oak, hickory, yellow poplar, black walnut, red cedar, ash, gum, elm, persimmon and sassafras.

In some instances there are broad domains of forest, as yet untouched by the rude hand of invasion.

The minerals of the county are varied and valuable. Investigation has shown that there are three gigantic ranges of deposits of brown hematite ore running throughout Talladega. These are calling into operation numerous furnaces, and are causing the construction of an increasing number of railway lines. The marble quarries of Talladega are noted; limestone, lithographic stone and slate are also found in considerable quantities, with large quantities of gold, silver, copper and lead. Not until within the last few years has public attention been called to the vast mineral resources of this county. Since that time there has been a continual growth of population, and real estate is gradually increasing in value. Among the industries of the county may be mentioned the Clifton Iron Company, at Jenifer, the furnace at Ironton Junction (formerly Alabama Furnace). Of late, extensive gold mines have been developed in the county and are now being worked with decided profit.

Formerly there were worked near Talladega and Syllacauga extensive marble quarries, but of late the work has not been prosecuted to any considerable extent. A block of marble from

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these quarries has a place in the great Washington Monument, at the National Capital. These valuable marbles will again win attention, and assume more than their original importance in the markets.

A gigantic enterprise, in the form of a lumbering interest exists at Renfroe, in Talladega county. It is located at the terminus of the Talladega & Coosa Valley Railroad, which is being extended across Coosa River to Broken Arrow, in St. Clair county, making connection with the East & West Alabama Railroad. Of late, unusual attention has been called to the Cragdale water power on Talladega Creek. This is a sudden plunge of a vast volume of water into a valley lying beneath. The hands of a Titan seem to have scooped out this great stony trough-way for the passage of these mighty waters, and to have reared these rocky ramparts on either side for some great indust prise.

The point of greatest prominence in the county is Talladega, the county seat, with a population of 3,500. It is noted for the enterprise of its citizens, the size and character of its institutions of learning, and the beauty and healthfulness of its location. Talladega has a system of waterworks, superior perhaps, to those of any city of the same size in the South. It is beautifully lighted with gas. The citizens have recently erected an imposing school building, and have adopted the public school system. Besides this, there are two colleges of merit in the city—one white and one colored. It has excellent churches, and is the location of the Deaf, Dumb and Blind Institute of the State.

Childersburg, Alpine and Mumford, are also points of interest. In the extreme southern portion of the county are the Talladega Springs, which have long been a favorite resort as a watering place. The popularity of such points with our people, together with the superiority of these waters, warrants the belief that they will one day be considerably patronized.

The county enjoys considerable facilities for railroad transportation, there being five lines, viz: The East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia, the Georgia Pacific, the Anniston & Atlantic, the Columbus & Western and the Talladega & Coosa Valley Railroads. These will doubtless be largely increased in a few years, as Eng-

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lish and Northern capital is finding expression in different sections of the county in the purchase of timber and mineral lands, and already plans are on foot to establish furnaces near the city of Talladega. The social advantages of the county are numerous and superior. The masses of the population are more than ordinarily intelligent, thrifty and well-to-do.

Lands may be purchased in the county from prices ranging from $5 to $35, according to location, fertility and improvements. There is a wide-spread desire to have earnest, wide-awake immigrants populate the unoccupied areas of the county. There are in the county 10,800 acres of land belonging to the General Government, and this affords an additional inducement to settlers.

SAINT CLAIR COUNTY.

THIS is one of the territorial counties of the State, having been organized in 1816. It was named for General Arthur Saint Clair. Like many other counties in the same part of the State, it is receiving particular notice as one of great mineral wealth. The Red Mountains pass through this county for a distance of some thirty miles, running northeast and southwest. In these mountains are large and inexhaustible quantities of rich, red hematite ore. The ridges on the northwest side of Beaver Creek, which traverses the entire length of the county, are in many places, filled with an excellent quality of brown ore. The ridge dividing Shoal and Beaver creeks has deposited in it in places a superior quality of hemonite ore, suitable for steel making. In the eastern and southeastern portion of the county and on the western side of Coosa River are to be found large and valuable deposits of brown ore.

The area of St. Clair is 630 square miles.

Population in 1880, 14,062; population in 1890, 17,353; white, 14,305; colored, 3,050.

Area planted in cotton, 16,966 acres; in corn, 24,946 acres; in

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oats, 4,235 acres; in wheat, 1,495 acres; in tobacco, 2 acres; in rye, 13 acres; cotton production, 7,136 bales.

The most valuable portions of the Coosa coal field are in this county. The field is in width about five miles, and in length some twenty-five miles. This field is traversed nearly its entire length by the East & West Railroad of Alabama. The road running parallel with the out-crop of the coal veins. Coal is extensively worked at Coal City, Ragland and Inman. There is not a finer steam coal anywhere in the State than is raised at these mines. The coal makes good coke. There are a large number of coke ovens at both Coal City and Ragland. This coal is easily and cheaply mined and finds a ready sale. The opening up of the Coosa River to navigation to the Gulf will add greatly to the value of this field.

The upper Cahaba coal field is found in this county covering a large area, and lying on the Black creeks between Springville and Henry Ellen. In this part of the field the veins are very thick, some as much as seven feet in thickness. They lie well, are easily mined and the coal is of excellent variety. For want of transportation this part of the field has not been worked to any great extent. When the East & West Railroad is built on to Birmingham and the Chattanooga Southern is extended to the latter place, this field will be of great value.

The upper Warrior coal field lies on the eastern portion of Blount county, and in places crop out over the line in St. Clair county. This portion of the Warrior field for want of transportation has not been worked. The Tennessee River, Ashville & Coosa River Railway, now being constructed, will bring this field to the front. This road will pass over the Warrior field for many miles. The veins of coal are good in quality and quantity, and much of the mining can be done without the use of pumps, the coal being above the water-level.

Limestone is found almost everywhere. It lies on the mountain sides and in bluffs, and can be cheaply quarried and manufactured. The quality is not surpassed in any part of the State. The fossiliferous, blue and magnesia limes are all to be had in St. Clair. This county also has an abundance of marble. Also, a superior quality of millstone grit.

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Ashville, the county site, is situated in one of the prettiest and most fertile valleys in that part of the State. It is built just at the base of the eastern Red Mountain. It is safe to say that there is within five miles of this town enough red, brown and hemonite ore to run a score of furnaces for hundreds of years. There are in the town, springs sufficiently large to run a mill, besides Big Canoe Creek, which might well be called a river passing on its way to the Coosa through the place. In olden times, flat boats were laden with the products of the county and carried from Ashville to Mobile. No town in Northeastern Alabama has more natural advantages than this place, and at no distant day will be a great manufacturing center. The health of the place is excellent.

The northeastern boundary of St. Clair county is formed by Blount or Strait Mountain, which is the southern end of the branches of Sand Mountain, recognized as a part of the coal field of the State. In the northwestern corner of the county Chandler Mountain, about eleven miles long and five miles wide, is of the same formation. The top of this mountain is about nine hundred feet above its base. The mountain is well watered and timbered, and quite fertile. It offers peculiar advantages for fruit growing. The fruit crops never fail on this elevated spot. The A. G. S. R. R. passes at the foot on the eastern side. Market for fruits: Birmingham, Chattanooga and Cincinnati. The mountain is within 24 hours run of Cincinnati. The lands can be had on good terms. In fact some of these lands are owned by the Government, and can be purchased for the fees incurred in entering them.

Between the hills and mountain ranges which the coal measures always form, lie the chief valleys; Coosa Valley, between the river and coal field, and the Cahaba Valley, between the Coosa and Cahaba coal fields. These valleys are broken here and there with narrow ridges, which run the entire length, creating a great diversity of soil. It will be observed that the county presents a great variety in its topographical and other natural features.

Here as elsewhere, the fertile lands lie along the valleys, while the thinner soil crown the higher lands. The Coosa Valley, which as we have seen, lies along the eastern part of St. Clair, is

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about ten miles wide. The lands are quite productive, and are for the most part devoted to corn, cotton, wheat, oats and potatoes. Cahaba Valley is also rich in soil, and is flanked on either side with charming scenery. Big Canoe Creek Valley, which is about eight miles wide, is regarded the most attractive, in point of scenery, of all, and with respect to fertility is equal to any land in the State. Along these valleys grow the staple products of the county, viz: Cotton, corn, wheat, oats, rye, barley, sorghum, sweet and Irish potatoes.

The last National census shows that St. Clair county produces more cotton to the acre than any other county in the State. Along the slopes and table lands of St. Clair grow the superb fruits which are produced, such as apples, peaches, pears, plums and all varieties of berries.

These mountain districts, because of their healthful climate and responsive soils, are being rapidly peopled.

In every part of the county grasses and clover do well. The Japan clover grows luxuriantly and wild, furnishing herbage for stock from early spring to frost.

Along the valleys, particularly, grow the finest specimens of oak timbers. The mountain slopes are covered with valuable woods. In different portions of the county are found the several varieties of timbers, such as long-leaf or yellow pine, white and red oaks, poplar and hickory. Some of these compose vast forests, which occupy much of the most productive land in St. Clair.

The county throughout is streaked by perpetual streams, which are fed by innumerable springs of water. Chief among these springs may be named Broken Arrow, Trout, Shoal and Canoe Creeks and East and West forks of the Cahaba River. The Cahaba River, which grows into such large proportions as it flows south, has it source among the hills of this county. Most of these streams are wide and deep, affording an endless supply of water, and furnishing many natural sites for industrial enterprises. The county is favored in its railroad advantages—there being four to give outlet to its products, viz: The Alabama Great Southern, Georgia Pacific, East & West, Tennessee River, Ashville & Coosa, and Talladega & Coosa Valley Railroads.

St. Clair embraces 3,000 acres of government land.

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ETOWAH COUNTY.

THE county of Etowah derives its name from an Indian term which means pine tree. It was created in 1866 under the name of Baine, which name it retained for two years, when it was changed to Etowah. It is located in that section of the State which abounds in numerous elements of natural wealth, such as productive lands, forests of valuable timber, and deposits of ore. Pluck and capital are needed to develop the immense resources in which Etowah abounds. Favored both with railroad and river transportation, the county ought to be speedily developed. But let us examine more minutely into its merits.

Its area is 520 square miles.

Population in 1880, 15,398; population in 1890, 21,926. Whites, 18,171; colored, 3,755.

Area planted in cotton, 20,996 acres; in corn, 27,728 acres; in oats, 7,246 acres; in wheat, 973 acres; in tobacco, 27 acres; in rye, 3 acres.

Cotton Production—8,482 bales.

The county of Etowah is penetrated from the northeast to the southwest by two mountain plateaus and three valleys. The Coosa River flows through the eastern part of the county, thereby forming the valley of the same name, the fertility of which we have had occasion already to notice. The historic Coosa sweeps directly along the heart of the valley, which curves with the natural windings of the river. The valley begins to form by a slight undulation about three or four miles on either side of the Coosa.

As in other counties penetrated by this noted Coosa Valley, it is broken here and there by dividing ridges.

Beginning southwest of Gadsden and extending to the utmost limits of the county are what are locally known as "The Flatwoods." This is quite a level tract of country. With the proper drainage this broad domain could be brought into agricultural requisition, but as it is but poorly drained it is comparatively little cultivated. Nothing seems wanting but drainage, as the natural

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growth and analysis of the soils show that the land is capable of at least moderate production.

Flanking the flatwoods region are the cultivated lands of the belt. The land here is of a brownish cast and produces well. The Lookout Mountain plateau extends from the northeastern part of the county to Gadsden. This table land is covered with the rocks of the Coal Measures, the soils of which, as usual, are sandy, alternating with loam.

Wills' Valley lies between this plateau and another from Sand Mountain, which runs parallel with the former.

Beyond this still is Murphree's Valley. These valley lands are quite productive, being of a dark mulatto or mahogany color. These lands are usually stiff, but yield abundant results where properly drained, deeply plowed, and otherwise well cultivated. The lands lying along the ridges and plateaus are sandy and easily cultivated. Upon these plateau lands there can be a more rapid rotation of crops, as they grow up rapidly and mature speedily. In the valleys are forests of oak, hickory, chestnut and walnut. The Flatwoods region is covered with post, red, Spanish and black-jack oaks, together with sweet and sour gums, and short-leaf pines. The chief products of the county are cotton, corn, wheat, oats, millet, sorghum, sweet and Irish potatoes and clover. The plateaus yield very fine fruits, especially apples, pears, peaches and plums. So well adapted are the soils to the production of the clovers and grasses that attention is being directed to stock-breeding. For many years the production of wool has been a specialty in the county. A few years ago it ranked third in the production of wool. The county is watered by Big and Little Wills' Creeks, Black Creek and the Coosa River. There are many bold springs in different parts of the county. Transportation is furnished by the Alabama Great Southern Railroad, which connects with the steamers on the Coosa at Gadsden, by means of a short line running between the last named place and Attalla. This affords an easy outlet by rail from Gadsden to New Orleans, Cincinnati, Atlanta, Chattanooga, Birmingham and other points of importance. Other railroads penetrating the county are the Anniston & Cincinnati, Tennessee & Coosa River, and Rome & Decatur lines.

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Considerable quantities of iron ore are mined in the neighborhood of Attalla and shipped to the furnaces at Birmingham and Chattanooga. In this particular section are many excellent lumber mills.

GADSDEN.

Gadsden, with a population of 3,700, is one of the most attractive as well as one of the most important points in the State. Besides its beautiful river, upon which ply large packets, it has three important railways, viz: Anniston & Cincinnati, Tennessee & Coosa Valley, and Rome & Decatur. It is but a short distance from the Queen & Crescent line between Cincinnati and New Orleans. It is regarded one of the best lumber markets in the State, having a number of extensive mills for the manufacture of lumber. Besides these, there is a large sash, door and blind factory, and a broom-handle factory. In the neighborhood of the town there are several coal mines which are being successfully worked.

The town abounds in excellent church and school advantages.

Its natural scenery can not be surpassed by that of any other point in the State.

The scene is that of a busy city nestled amid its native groves of oak at the base of high mountains, the woody flanks of which extend even to the limits of the city.

Various manufactories are found here, chief among which are the Coosa charcoal furnaces, which are among the largest and best in the State. Not a great distance from the city is mined brown hematite ore, which is broadly diffused throughout this section. The extent of the prevalence of this ore has not yet been determined, but is evidently considerable.

Sweeping past the city on the east is the Coosa River, upon the bosom of which float steamers of commerce which ply in both directions. In the sections adjacent to the town are many mineral springs, which are points of frequent resort. Black Creek Falls, but a short distance from Gadsden, are an object of great natural wonder.

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Attalla is another town of some importance because of its neighboring iron mines.

Lands may be purchased at prices running all the way up from $2.50 to $20.

There are in the county 4,420 acres of government land.

DeKALB COUNTY.

DeKALB COUNTY took its name from the famous Baron DeKalb. It was constituted in 1836. DeKalb lies in the extreme north-eastern corner of the State, and is bounded by Georgia on the east, its extreme northern point touching the line of the State of Tennessee. It shares largely in the fertile lands and mineral deposits, both of which abound in this section of Alabama. Its climate, healthfulness, favorableness of location, and natural sources of wealth, make it one of the most desirable counties in the State.

Area of the county 740 square miles.

Population in 1880, 12,625; population in 1890, 21,106. White, 19,897; colored, 1,209.

Area planted in cotton, 15,870 acres; in corn, 36,671 acres; in oats, 7,637 acres; in wheat, 1,646 acres; in rye, 129 acres; in tobacco, 86 acres.

Cotton production—4,573 bales.

It will be seen that the population of DeKalb has been almost doubled within the last ten years, which serves to indicate quite fully the estimate which is placed upon the county by immigrants and investors. This is due to the peculiar advantages offered in climate, diversity of productions, mineral deposits, and cheapness of lands, all of which are chief factors in the prosperity of the county. DeKalb connty is occupied in great part by the two plateaus of Sand and Lookout Mountains. The former of these constitutes a high plane, whose surface rocks are those of the Coal Measures. These two plateaus, of which that of Sand Mountain is the greater, are separated by Will's Valley, which cuts

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entirely across the county from northeast to southwest. This valley embraces the most productive lands of DeKalb. It is here that almost all the cotton in the county is produced.

The land along the valleys was very highly prized by the first settlers of the county, and but little regard was had for that which lay along the plateaus. Later, however, the uplands were brought into use, and the result of their tillage has been peculiarly gratifying.

They are not only cultivated with far less effort, but are found to be almost equal in production to the lower soils when assisted some with fertilizers. The lands of the county may thus be divided in a general way between the dark, stiff soils of the valley and the lighter soils of the plateaus. The staple productions are cotton, corn, wheat, oats, rye and sweet potatoes. Grasses and clover flourish also, and the attention which is being given their production is tending to the improvement of stock. As is true throughout this entire section of the State, the lands upon the plateaus are those devoted to fruit culture. Apples, pears and peaches, and indeed, all fruits grown in the latitude attain perfection. Fruit trees thrive here for many years, and the crop is rarely killed or injured by frosts. Perhaps no section of America can display finer specimens of plums than grow in this region. The principal timbers of the county are oaks, hickory, cherry and short-leaf pines. These exist in sufficient quantities for all domestic purposes.

DeKalb county has the amplest water supplies for all purposes. Streams of rapid and deep currents afford inducements for the erection of machinery, while cool and everlasting springs issue from the hills in every section of the county. Lookout Mountain plateau is drained by Little River and its tributaries, while Sand Mountain is drained by Town Creek and the numerous streams which empty into it. Prominent among the streams are Long Island, Scarham, Black and South Santa Creeks.

Near Valley Head, in Lookout Mountain plateau, are where the beautiful falls of Little River occur. They are nearly one hundred feet in height, with a deep, rocky gorge below them. Iron and coal largely prevail in the county. In Will's Valley there is found a superb quality of fire clay, which has become famous.

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It exists also in other parts of DeKalb. The kaolin of the county is very fine. Specimens displayed at the New Orleans Exposition took the first premium in 1885, and beautiful crockery manufactured from these porcelain clays was exhibited there. Railroad transportation is enjoyed by the people of the county, as the Alabama Great Southern Railroad penetrates it from northeast to southwest. Fort Payne, the county-seat, Collinsville, Lebanon, Valley Head and Portersville, are the principal towns of the county. The first of these has, of late years, became quite a point for manufacturing.

Public school system is good, and church facilities abound.

Lands can be secured upon the most reasonable terms possible. There are some government lands yet unsettled, being 1800 acres, and vast quantities of railroad lands which can be had at a marvelous low rate. In other sections, where land is purchasable, it can be had for from $2 to $25 per acre.

Numbers have availed themselves of the extraordinary inducements presented in securing public and railroad lands, and their accounts of the advantages here presented to settlers are quite flattering. Thrifty immigrants will be greeted with a cordial welcome.

CHEROKEE COUNTY.

CHEROKEE COUNTY derives its name from the Indian tribe which formerly inhabited it. The county was constituted in 1836. It is a border county lying alongside Georgia upon the east. Its natural advantages are very great, especially those relating to its mineral richness. Its agricultural capabilities are also good. Considerable enterprise has existed in the county for many years, and great progress has been made in the development of its resources, as its numerous mining interests will attest.

The area of Cherokee is 660 square miles.

Population in 1880, 19,108; population in 1890, 20,459. White, 17,656; colored, 2,803.

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Area planted in cotton, 28,571 acres; in corn, 30,011 acres; in oats, 7,334 acres; in wheat, 4,591 acres; in rye, 42 acres; in tobacco, 11 acres.

Cotton Production—11,994 bales.

There has been a steady influx of population into the county which has increased with the years. More and more its numerous advantages in soil, climate, mineral wealth and location are being appreciated.

The face of the county is generally uneven and sometimes mountainous, and like all the counties of this region, the upper lands are thin with very fertile valleys lying between.

The cultivated soils of Cherokee are composed of red and brown loams which belong to the caves and valleys, and skirt the principal streams. Upon these lands most of the cotton of the county is produced. Then along the ridges and hills are found the thinner soils, which have a grayish cast and are mixed with a flinty gravel. The character of both these classes of lands varies very greatly with the different localities. Then there are what are called the "flatwoods," which form a considerable belt in the county. Though this soil, when analyzed, shows that it has fine productive capabilities, it is but rarely cultivated, because care has not been taken to drain it. No doubt it can be brought into profitable cultivation. Perhaps in no county in the State can there be found a greater diversity of soil than in Cherokee.

The valley lands are almost entirely devoted to the production of corn, cotton, wheat and oats. Upon the higher or table-lands are produced excellent fruits, chief among which are apples, pears, peaches and plums. Fruit trees are but seldom disturbed by frost. With proper care and cultivation orchards growing upon these elevated lands become very profitable. The vine is cultivated with wonderful success along the mountains.

Stock raising in Cherokee is on the increase because of the revenue derived from the experiments already made. Herbage grows with such readiness and in such profusion as to encourage the greater production of stock.

The growth of the forests comprises oaks (of the several varieties), hickory, chestnut, short and long leaf pines. There is quite an extensive prevalence of pine forests in the county, which

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have given rise to many mills and log yards, which are established at convenient bluffs along the Coosa River, giving employment to many laborers.

In several portions of Cherokee there are extensive and valuable deposits of iron ore, much of which is worked up in the furnaces along the East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia Railroad. The following iron works are in successful operation in the county: The Stonewall Iron Company, Tecumseh Iron Company, Rock Run Furnace, Alabama Iron Company, Cornwall Iron Works, and Round Mountain Furnace. There is a fine cotton factory at Spring Garden. Rich coal deposits also exist in the county.

Cherokee has an abundant water supply, being traversed by the Coosa, Chattanooga, Yellow and Little Rivers, and Cowan's, Ball Play, Wolf, Spring, Terrapin, Yellow and Mill Creeks. All these are valuable streams, which are fed by numerous tributaries. This is the only county the heart of which is penetrated by the beautiful river Coosa. With the exception of Etowah, near whose eastern boundary the river runs, it forms the border line of all the other counties which it waters. But Cherokee, it divides in twain, imparting fertility and beauty from limit to limit of the county. The waterways already named have almost without exception immense capabilities of water-power adapted to the planting of vast enterprises.

The line between Cherokee and DeKalb counties runs along the summit of Lookout Mountain.

The Broomtown Valley, in the northwest corner of Cherokee, is worthy of special mention by reason of its fertility and romantic beauty. The grandeur of this section is enhanced by its bold and clear streams, which ramify it throughout.

Transportation is afforded the county by the East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia Railroad, and the Coosa River.

Center, the county seat, and Cedar Bluff are the leading towns. Together with other centers of population, these possess good educational and religious advantages. At Gaylesville there is a high school of note.

Lands range in price from $2.50 to $25 per acre. The government owns 1,440 acres of land in Cherokee county.

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CALHOUN COUNTY.

THIS county was organized in 1832, and named Benton. This name it retained until 1858, when it was changed to the one it now bears, which was given in honor of the great South Carolina statesman. Calhoun has long been regarded one of the best agricultural counties in the State. This reputation it still enjoys. In addition to this, however, it is now regarded one of the leading counties in the fertility of its mineral resources. The progress which has been made in Calhoun within the last few years has been amazing, and serves to show what pluck and energy can achieve when coupled with the requisite means of progress. The vast mineral stores which have been discovered in the hills and mountains of Calhoun are serving greatly to enrich the county, and by their development to benefit mankind. Looking at it more in detail we find that Calhoun has an area of 640 square miles.

Population in 1880, 19,591; population in 1890, 33,835. White, 23,947; colored, 9,888.

Area planted in cotton, 29,212 acres; in corn, 26,953 acres; in oats, 9,415 acres; in wheat, 3,053 acres; in rye, 13 acres; in tobacco, 12 acres.

Cotton production—11,504 bales.

The surface of Calhoun is hilly and uneven, and presents the usual characteristics of a mineral region. But the great variety of soils only indicates the vast diversity of productions, for the county seems capable of producing every plant that grows in the Temperate Zone.

As will be seen from the above statistics, vast quantities of land are tilled in the county, and the capacity of its soils may be judged from the variety of its productions. In the valleys and along the numerous water courses are found the best lands in Calhoun; but, while they are capable of a greater yield per acre than the higher lands, they are more difficult of cultivation. The valley lands are usually chosen for cotton, while the uplands are generally devoted to the raising of corn, wheat, oats, rye and

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Irish and sweet potatoes, which are the staple productions of the county. Many minor crops, such as peas and peanuts, are also annually produced.

The finest lands of Calhoun are found in the Alexandria and Choccolocco Valleys, which are covered with splendid farms, and which support a thrifty and progressive population.

The forests of Calhoun support pine (both long and short leaf), red, black, white, post, turkey and Spanish oaks, hickory, walnut, beech, poplar, elm, ash and sweet gum. This fact, coupled with that of a vast supply of water in every part of the county, greatly enhances it as a place of residence. Through different portions of Calhoun there flow the Coosa River and Ohatchee, Cane and Choccolocco Creeks.

The mountain and hill sections abound in the finest springs, some of which have water of almost icy coolness. Not least among the attracting features of Calhoun county is its fruit producing capacity. Superb orchard fruits are raised in every part of the county. Apples, peaches and pears ripen quite readily, and as they are but seldom interfered with by frosts, they become a source of revenue to fruit growers. Cherries, grapes and plums flourish also with the greatest readiness.

The orefields and limestone deposits of Calhoun county constitute its chief glory. From present indications these resources are practically exhaustless. Both brown and red hematite iron ores prevail in every portion of the county. Manganese, marble, kaolin, sandstone, barite, bauxite, copper, lead, lithographic stone and fire-brick clay are also found. Some of these exist in large quantities.

Considerable attention is given to stock raising. At Alexandria Captain Crook has a fine herd of Jerseys. Near Anniston is another dairy and stock farm owned by Captain Bush, where the finest strains of Jerseys are to be found.

ANNISTON.

This city of 10,000 people is one of the marvellous evidences of the spirit of energy and prosperity which has characterized the people of Alabama during the last decade. It is located in a

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beautiful green valley, and is engirdled by a rampart of high mountains. Nature seems to have designed the location for just such a city as is there being rapidly built. The valley inlets and outlets seem the natural gateways for the railroads. No haste seems to have been exhibited in building the city, for the streets are adorned with architectural elegance, the sidewalks are paved, and the broad streets of eighty feet in width are admirably graded, macadamized, and guttered with stone.

Every house is erected with a view to permanence. One of the chief objects of attraction is the Anniston Inn, a magnificent hotel, which crowns a slight eminence in the heart of the city. It has been built at a cost of $160,000, and is an object of exceeding great attraction. In visiting that part of the city occupied by the operatives, the visitor can not help being impressed with the tranquil contentment and happiness which seem everywhere to prevail.

Its industries embrace two charcoal and two coke furnaces; car works with $1,000,000 capital; rolling mills, $100,000; compress and warehouse, $100,000; pipe works, $300,000; cotton mills, $250,000; cordage works, bent wood works, lime works, bottling works, boiler shops, machine shops, planing mills, etc. $250,000; five banks; land company, $3,000,000; with water works, electric lights, costly churches, first-class schools, well graded streets, a large general merchandise business, and the finest hotel in the State. The capital of the Woodstock Iron Company is $3,000,000.

Jacksonville, the county seat, with a population of 1,237, is also a most desirable and growing town. Besides its superb social advantages, it has excellent churches and superior educational privileges. A large Normal school is established here, and it deservedly ranks with the largest schools in the State. In the surrounding country are many splendid farms. Stock-raising has received considerable attention, and is rapidly becoming one of the most profitable branches of industry in the county.

Other points of interest are Oxanna, Oxford, Piedmont, Morrisville, Germania, Choccolocco and White Plains. The county ranks among the first in the State in its educational facilities. At all the places named there are first-class schools. At Oxford

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there is a college of considerable repute. Transportation is afforded by the East Tennessee, Virginia and Georgia, Georgia Pacific, and Louisville and Nashville Railroads. Advantages for religious worship exist not only in the centers, but throughout the county.

Lands are purchasable at rates quite moderate for so progressive a section, where the tendency of real estate is invariably upward. Wild lands may be had at $5 to $10 per acre, and cultivated farms at $15 to $50 per acre. The climate and healthfulness of the county are excellent.

The constant flow of population into Calhoun sufficiently indicates the spirit with which immigrants are met.

There are in the county 7,780 acres of government land, which offers additional inducements to immigrants.

CLEBURNE COUNTY.

THIS county was created in 1866, and named in honor of General Patrick R. Cleburne, of Arkansas. Though abounding in natural resources, the county is not as fully developed as some others in the same region. Since the construction of a railroad throughout the county, giving its productions a ready outlet, it is winning to itself a thrifty population, and in many ways the merits of Cleburne are coming more and more to be recognized and appreciated. Great inducements exist in the county for capitalists and immigrants, as its mines are stored with rich ores, and its lands abound in fertility. The county has an area of 540 square miles.

Population in 1880, 10,976; population in 1890, 13,218. White, 12,437; colored, 791.

Area planted in cotton, 14,506 acres; in corn, 22,474 acres; in oats, 6,099 acres; in wheat, 3,692 acres; in tobacco, 73 acres.

Cotton Production—5,389 bales.

Cleburne has a varied surface. In the northern end of the county there are rugged hills and mountains, with intervening

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valleys of fertility. These valley lands are of a reddish hue, as is true of most of the lands of this character, in this and the northern portion of Alabama. The lands which lie along the ridges are of a light, grayish color. But few of the mountain lands have ever been cultivated, as the residents of the county have never felt the necessity of leaving the level for the higher districts.

Along the slopes, however, there are good farming lands with yellow subsoil. The remainder of the county is covered with either red or gray lands, except in the creek and river bottoms, where the soil partakes largely of sand. In the western portion of the county there is a sparcer population than in any other section, because the lands are regarded as the least fertile. Cleburne has many fertile valleys, which are mostly devoted to the production of corn, though some cotton is planted. Along these valley stretches are some of the best farms in the county. The lower portion of Cleburne abounds in red fertile lands.

The productions are corn, cotton, wheat and oats, with minor crops of great importance. The soils are admirably suited to the production of apples and peaches. The clovers and grasses are found to thrive with great readiness, and hence, stock-raising is gradually receiving more attention. The county has many forests of excellent timber, the chief growth of which are white, red and Spanish oaks, short and long-leaf pine, walnut, hickory and gum. For many years a gold mine has been successfully worked at Arbachoochee. The same ore is also found near Hightower. In different parts of the county copper, mica, slate, graphites, pyrites, zinc and kaolin, are found prevailing. Iron deposits also exist. Silver has also been discovered. These await capital in order to be properly developed.

The supplies of water in every portion of Cleburne are unfailing, as it is penetrated by such streams as the Tallapoosa River, and Terrapin, Muscadine, Cane, Shoal, Cahulga, Chulafinnee, Dying and Lost Creeks. All these are sustained by numerous tributaries, which contribute further to the supply of water.

The places of greatest importance are Edwardsville, the county-seat, Heflin, Arbachoochee and Chulafinnee.

At Edwardsville there is a High School of local note, and at

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Heflin there is an Institute, both of which are well conducted and handsomely sustained. Other good schools are found in different parts of the county.

The channels of transportation are, the Georgia Pacific Railroad, and the East and West Railroad—the former a magnificent thoroughfare, giving an outlet to each of the cities of Anniston and Atlanta.

The Alabama Land and Mineral Company own about 40,000 acres of land in Cleburne, which can be purchased at remarkably low figures. Besides these, there is a great deal of government land in the county still untaken, there being 21,740 acres. Lands can be purchased from resident owners for from $2 to $10 per acre.

CLAY COUNTY.

THIS county was created in 1866, and took its name from the great Kentucky statesman, Henry Clay. Like other interior counties in Alabama, the mineral and agricultural properties are not as yet fully recognized and appreciated. It is remote from lines of transportation and is not as accessible as other portions of the State which have won distinction among capitalists, and yet are not a whit in advance of Clay. When the productive soils, the varied minerals, and the vast water-power of the county shall attract public notice, gateways of commerce will be opened, and its hills and valleys will teem with a population.

The area of Clay is 610 square miles.

Population in 1880, 12,938; population in 1890, 15,765. White, 14,001; colored, 1,704.

Area planted in cotton, 20,950 acres; in corn, 26,391 acres; in oats, 6,529 acres; in wheat, 2,098 acres; in tobacco, 28 acres; rye, 38 acres.

Cotton production—8,250 bales.

Clay county is varied both with respect to the face of the country and the character of the soils. The western portion is a

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mountainous region with a dark fertile soil. The eastern portion has a varied surface with a soil of sandy loam. A mountainous ridge penetrates the county from the southwest to the northeast. Most of the lands lying adjacent to this ridge are very productive. In the northern end of Clay and west of this range is a valley of exceedingly rich farming land. The bottom lands which lie along the streams which water the county are generally productive. A belt of "flatwoods" four or five miles wide is found east of the ridge lands. This belt is covered with a mixed growth of oaks and pine and has generally a gray and somewhat sandy soil. Throughout the county the gray lands are regarded the best for farming purposes.

The bulk of the cotton crop of Clay is raised in the southern and eastern parts of the county, because of the superiority of the soils. The chief productions are cotton, corn, wheat, oats, and sweet potatoes. Orchard and garden fruits also do well.

The timbers of the county include both short and long-leaf pine, with blackjack and other oaks, hickory, sweet gum, walnut, poplar, crab apple, persimmon, ash, maple, dogwood, and alder. The mountains and hillsides are covered with the heaviest timbers. The timber and lumber trade is one of the future industries of Clay county.

Gold, silver, barytes, tin, manganese, pyrites, soapstone, iron, copper, copperas, mica, graphite and slate are found in different parts of Clay. The Confederate authorities, during the last two years of the war, secured much sulphur from the county for the manufacture of powder.

The water-power of the county is immense. The inclination of many of the streams is great, imparting a mighty momentum to the descending waters. Big Kitchabadarga, Talladega, Hatchet, Hillabee Hatchee, Enitochopka, Condutchkee, Crooked, and Mad Indian Creeks are the main streams. The county is abundantly supplied, too, with perennial springs of freestone water.

Ashland, the county seat, with a population of 300, Lineville and Delta are the principal points of interest. Excellent schools of a high grade are found at all these points.

There are 3,120 acres of government land in Clay county.

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If purchased now lands can be secured in the county at marvellously low rates.

The residents and land owners are anxious for an increased population and greater prosperity. While the county possesses extensive advantages, as will appear from the foregoing statements, capital is needed to bring its divers resources into note and to prompt the construction of lines of transportation.

Lands may be purchased as low as $1 per acre, while the most improved can be had from $5 to $15 per acre.

Those desiring homes may be sure of a cordial welcome in this county.

RANDOLPH COUNTY.

THE county of Randolph was created in 1832, and named for the famous John Randolph, of Virginia. Its natural advantages are, in many respects, superior. Its climate is salubrious, lands good, tone of society elevated, and health unsurpassed. It has been styled the "Switzerland of America."

During the census of 1880, the census official of the county rendered in his report at Washington, only to have it returned to him for correction respecting his mortuary statements, the Washington official declaring that the death rate was so low, he supposed some mistake had been made. The original report was returned to Washington unchanged, as no error had been committed.

The area of the county is 610 square miles.

Population in 1880, 16,575; population in 1890, 17,219. White, 13,914; colored, 3,305.

Area planted in cotton, 28,387 acres; in corn, 27,331 acres; in oats, 5,815 acres; in wheat 2,697 acres; in tobacco, 14 acres; in rye, 41 acres.

Cotton Production—About 10,348 bales.

Though the soils of Randolph are less fertile than those of other

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regions, it has advantages for the farmer which are not enjoyed in counties of superior lands. The soils are of average fertility, and on account of deep clay subsoil and abundant rainfall, are quite reliable for agricultural purposes. Not more than one-fourth of the forests of Randolph have been cleared for purposes of agriculture. The lands of the county are easily tilled, and when aided by manures make a handsome return. The chief crops are corn, cotton, wheat and oats. Several varieties of grass have been introduced into the county and the results have been very satisfactory. Redtop and orchard grass thrive with readiness.

Fruit growing is gradually receiving more attention. The more elevated lands of Randolph produce an unfailing crop of peaches, there having been but one failure in thirty-five years. The lands along the hilly slopes are peculiarly adapted to the production of grapes. Indeed, all the fruits and vegetables known to this latitude grow to perfection in Randolph. The farmers of the county are well-to-do, and, for the most part, produce everything for home consumption.

It enjoys railroad advantages with LaFayette and Opelika. In gold, copper, mica, tin, graphite and kaolin it is doubtless one of the richest counties in the State. All these are found mainly in the northern portion of Randolph. The kaolin is of a superior quality and is inexhaustible. The main deposit of ore of the Stone Hill copper mine is on the Randolph side. The supply of mica is considerable and of a superior quality.

The timbers of the county include pine, oak and hickory, which vary with the changing soils. About three-fourths of the county are still covered with splendid forests which, in some instances, include considerable districts of the yellow or long-leaf pine.

The East Alabama Railroad has been built to Roanoke, and when completed to Anniston, the county of Randolph will be traversed by it, and thus will be furnished a valuable line. The Atlanta & Atlantic Railroad will also run through it.

The county is penetrated by the Tallapoosa and Little Tallapoosa Rivers, High Pine, Corn House, Fox, Bear, Cat, Nose, Piney and Chillisada Creeks and their numerous tributaries. The springs and wells afford a superb freestone water which is remarkably cold. The depth and grade of clay in Randolph accounts for

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the purity of its waters, and the excellent water and salubrious air accounts for the wonderful health enjoyed by the inhabitants of the county.

Roanoke, Wedowee, the county seat, and Rock Mills are the points of interest. These, as well as other points in the county, are well supplied with churches and schools. At both Rock Mills and Wedowee there are high schools of merit, while at Roanoke is to be found the Roanoke Male and Female College, an institution of note in this section of the State. At Rock Mills, an enterprising village, there is a large cotton factory, a tannery, pottery, and cabinet establishment.

Lands may be purchased from $2 to $5 per acre.

The people are fully alive to the importance of immigration and are prompted to encourage all seeking homes to consider the claims of Randolph.

There are 3,920 acres of government land in the county.

CHAMBERS COUNTY.

CHAMBERS county was created in 1832, and named in honor of Hon. Henry Chambers, of Madison county. It is one of the boundary counties on the east, and is separated from Georgia by the Chattahoochee River. Area of the county 610 square miles.

Population in 1880, 23,440; population in 1890, 26,319; white, 12,460; colored, 13,859.

Area planted in cotton, 79,865 acres; in corn, 45,292 acres; in oats, 8,262 acres; in wheat, 1,152 acres; in rye, 28 acre; in tobacco, 1 acre.

Cotton Production—27,276 bales.

The general surface of Chambers is neither mountainous nor level, but is rolling. The northwestern portion is pine land with gray soil. All the remainder of the county, with but little exception, is mulatto soil with red clay subsoil.

Originally these lands were covered with a growth of oak, hick-

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ry, chestnut, gum, etc. Professor Tuomey, late State Geologist of Alabama, remarked on one occasion, that there were not forty acres of land in the county on which an industrious man would fail to make a competent support.

Chambers is regarded the best average county in Alabama. The subsoil is of such character that the surface can be made the most productive possible. Nearly every part of the county is susceptible of cultivation, and but little difference exists as to the capacity for productiveness. The land is red, mulatto or gray. The red is better for grain, if no fertilizers are used, and the gray is better suited to the production of cotton. The mulatto-colored lands are best suited to all crops, and mature their crops earlier. While the red lands seem better suited to the growth of grain, a considerable proportion of cotton is raised upon them. These red lands have from the first been selected by farmers, and it rarely occurs that any large areas can now be found which have not been put in cultivation. One finds the palatial mansions of the typical Southern planter of the long ago, embowering in magnificent groves of native oak, situated almost invariably in the midst of these lands.

The timbers of Chambers are mostly of oaks, and nowhere on the continent can more luxuriant groves of red, Spanish, white and post oaks be seen than upon the red, rolling lands of this county. An occasional belt of yellow or long-leaf pine is found.

The ordinary fruits of this latitude grow in Chambers quite readily, but it seems peculiarly suited to the production of peaches. Professor Eugene A. Smith, the present State Geologist, is reported to have said that Chambers is the most reliable county for the production of peaches that can be found in the United States.

The county is watered chiefly by the Tallapoosa and Chattahoochee Rivers and their tributaries.

The mineral resources of the county are, as yet, unknown. Only such specimens are found as favor the conjecture that they exist. This is true of iron ore. Corundum is found in great quantities in Chambers. In the northern part of the county is a beautiful soap-stone of gray and blue, which admits of as fine

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polish as marble. A belt of this beautiful stone extends across the county. It is manufactured into monuments and tombstones. Granite and graphite also exist.

Large mills for grinding corn and wheat are found at different points in Chambers. There are two cotton factories in the county, one near West Point, on the Chattahoochee, and the other upon the same stream, but lower down.

Chambers is favored with three lines of railway—the Western Railroad, which is the main line between Montgomery and Atlanta, and the Columbus & Western, and the East Alabama & Cincinnati Railroad, which terminates, at present, in the county.

LaFayette, the county seat, with a population of 1,500, Bluffton, Cusseta, Fredonia and Millton are places of importance and have good educational and religious advantages. There is an admirable system of free schools throughout the entire county. One of the attractive points in Chambers, and one which illustrates the capability of the soils to produce fruit, is the famous Parnell Peach Farm, in the southeastern part of the county. It embraces over one thousand acres of fruit trees. The proprietor gathers much of his delicious fruit as early as the beginning of May, and sends it to remote points, such as New York and Chicago. Fresh and well-matured peaches command almost fabulous prices in these markets at so early a season. The annual income of this fruit farm is immense.

The owner of this farm is a brother of the famous Irishman so conspicuous as a defender of his people in the British Parliament.

Many hundreds of acres of land are lying idle in this county awaiting the hands of the tiller. Every disposition exists on the part of the residents to induce investors to purchase farms and homes and settle in their midst. To those thus coming the most reasonable rates will be offered. In some parts of the county lands may be purchased from $2 per acre, while the best lands will not exceed $10 per acre. Health, climate, superior water, excellent soil, the best social advantages, and a warm welcome are among the inducements presented to immigrants and investors by the people of Chambers county. There are no government lands in the county.

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LEE COUNTY.

THIS county was established in 1866, and named for General Robert E. Lee, of Virginia. Highly favored in its location, with respect to the markets and transportation, as well as in regard to healthfulness, generous soils and educational facilities, Lee is a most desirable place of residence. Of these numerous advantages we shall have occasion to speak further on. Let us look somewhat into the internal resources of the county. It has an area of 610 square miles.

Population in 1880, 27,262; population in 1890, 28,694. White, 12,197; colored, 16,497.

Area planted in cotton, 58,447 acres; in corn, 31,112 acres; in oats, 9,638 acres; in wheat, 586 acres; in rye, 80 acres.

Cotton Production—18,332 bales.

Lee county is divided into two distinct sections with respect to its topography. In the north the surface is hilly, while in the south it is more level.

The several characters of soils are gray, red and sandy. Perhaps a little more than one-half of the tillable soil of Lee is gray. In other parts there is a distinct predominance of red land, while in others again, there is such a blending of the gray and red soils as to render it impossible to decide which prevails. The gray land is preferred for cotton, while the red lands are devoted, usually, to the grains. Crops grow with great readiness, and the lands are quite productive, especially when aided with fertilizers.

The character of the soils is such, and the undulation of the surface such, too, that farm work may be resumed soon after the heaviest rainfall.

The staple productions of Lee are cotton, corn, wheat, oats, sugar cane and sweet potatoes. The generous yield of the soils, the ease of cultivation, and the accessibility to market, serve as inducements to the planters to raise large quantities of cotton. This is consequently the one ruling staple of the county.

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Orchard culture is receiving greater attention with the advance of years.

Special attention has been devoted to the production of peaches and grapes, and with the most gratifying results. Extensive orchards and vineyards are now being planted in some parts of the county. Greater attention is also being given to the production of watermelons, to which the red lands, when fertilized, seem peculiarly adapted. The ready growth of this fruit, and the rapid transit to several markets in higher latitudes, are serving to stimulate producers to turn it to pecuniary advantage.

In Lee county there is an occurrence of white crystalline dolomite. In appearance it resembles white marble, and may be used for hearths, mantels, gravestones and monuments. It produces an excellent lime also. Besides this, there are to be found barytes, flagging stone, soapstone and granite. The forests abound in good timber, including short-leaf pine, the upland oaks, hickory, poplar, ash, maple, dogwood, the gums and cherry.

The streams of the county are the Chattahoochee River, and Wacoochee, Naufaba, Songahatchee, Big Hallewackee, White's, Wetumpka and Osanippa Creeks. These show a prevalence of water throughout the year. In addition to these, there is the presence of springs in every part of the county, and sometimes there are springs with mineral qualities. Either for plantation or domestic consumption, and for all mechanical purposes there is an abundant water supply. All the streams on the eastern side of the county flow into the Chattahoochee. The western portion is drained by the Tallapoosa.

The transportation facilities of Lee are superior. The Western Railroad of Alabama, the Columbus & Western, and the East Alabama and Cincinnati Railroads run through different portions of the county.

Conspicuous among its industries are the Chewacla Limeworks, near Youngsboro, on the Columbus & Western Railroad. The lime from these works is marketed through the several States of Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Mississippi and Louisiana. There is also a carriage and wagon factory at Opelika, besides other minor mechanical industries.

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The prominent points are Opelika, the county seat, having a population of 3,500, Auburn, Salem and Brownville.

The educational advantages of the county are superior. Opelika has two schools of a high order, both for male and female. Auburn is the seat of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of the State, and good common schools exist throughout the county.

Good lands can be purchased in the county from prices ranging from $3 to $15 per acre.

Purchasers of lands and seekers of homes would be accorded every consideration of Lee.

The county has no government lands.

TALLAPOOSA COUNTY.

THE county derives its name from the beautiful river which enters the northwestern portion and traces its course diagonally across it. It is one of the counties of the State the resources of which are but measurably known. Its agricultural capabilities have been somewhat tested, and in some particulars it leads the other counties of the State. Its mineral wealth is supposed to be considerable from the indications afforded. To these items our attention will now be directed somewhat in detail.

The county has an area of 810 square miles.

Population in 1880, 23,401; population in 1890, 25,460. White, 16,951; colored, 8,509.

Area planted in cotton, 53,119 acres; in corn, 40,899; in oats, 10,056 acres; in wheat, 1,667 acres; in tobacco, 16 acres; in rye, 37 acres.

Cotton production—20,337 bales.

The county has two predominating varieties of soils—the red and the gray. These soils usually rest upon a subsoil which is more or less reddish or yellowish in color. Here, as in the adjoining counties, the red soils are usually best suited to the production of grain. In addition to the prevailing upland soils of red and gray there are fertile bottoms, the richness of which has

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been derived from the washings of the neighboring hills. In some cases these are the best lands found in the county. These lowlands embrace about one-sixth of the entire county.

The cotton soils of Tallapoosa are the red and gray soils, and some of the bottom lands along the river and creeks.

In addition to these, the loamy lands of the southern end of Tallapoosa are much used for the production of cotton. Most of the cotton raised in the county is produced in the southern sections, because of the prevalence of the soils best adapted to its growth.

Upon the best grain lands are produced from thirty to forty bushels of corn per acre. The other chief productions of Tallapoosa are oats, wheat, sorghum, sweet potatoes, etc. It leads all the other counties in the State in the production of wheat.

The forests are heavily timbered with white, red and Spanish oak, poplar, hickory, pine, ash, mulberry and gum. These valuable timbers will be brought into requisition as the demand grows for their use in the mechanical arts.

The county is watered by the Tallapoosa River and the Hillabee, Chattasofka, Big Sandy, Little Sandy, Sorgahatchee, Buck, Elkehatchee, Blue, Winn and Emuckfaw Creeks. Immense water-power prevails in every section of the county and upon all the principal streams, notably upon Big Sandy and Hillabee. The incline planes over which the vast volumes of water are precipitated give them immense power for manufacturing purposes. In the southern end of the county are the famous Tallapoosa Great Falls, which possess the greatest water-power in the State. The water rushes along a steep declivity for two hundred yards, the inclination being fifty-three feet. The power is estimated at thirty-thousand-horse. Adjacent to the falls are vast quantities of granite rock, while immense forests of yellow pine timber extend backward into the interior for many miles. All indications point to this wonderful locality as one of the future centers of Southern manufacture. The famous Tallassee Cotton Mills are located upon the western side of the river, in the county of Elmore.

The minerals of Tallapoosa are numerous and abundant, and

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the indications are that they will soon prove immensely valuable to the county. There have been some rich finds of gold, even of late, in Tallapoosa. In the Terrell Mine, at Log Pit and Ely Pit, considerable quantities of gold are dug. Near Dadeville has been discovered gold which promises to yield abundantly. Silver has been discovered, but the extent of its prevalence is not known.

Near Dudleyville there are outcroppings of superior mica. Plates have been picked up fully eight inches square. Graphite is also found. Asbestos and emery exist in different sections of the county, and in some quarters asbestos, particularly, is found to be abundant. Through Dudleyville and Dadeville there passes a broad belt of magnesian rocks, chiefly soapstone; this prevails in immense quantities. Flagging stone also prevails.

The chief towns are Dadeville, the county seat, with a population of 1,500; Dudleyville, Alexander City, Camp Hill and Daviston.

At each of the towns of Dadeville, Camp Hill, Daviston, Alexander City and Hackneyville there is a high school, with good common school facilities existing throughout the county. A moral and religious sentiment prevails, which finds expression in good Sunday Schools and numerous churches of the various denominations.

A channel of transportation exists by reason of the completion of the Columbus & Western Railroad to Birmingham. This gives an outlet in both directions—to the principal cities of the East and West.

Good lands may be purchased in the county at prices ranging from $3 to $12 per acre. Immigration is earnestly desired by the residents of the county.

Tallapoosa county contains 580 acres of government land.

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COOSA COUNTY.

THE county of Coosa derives its name from the beautiful river of the same name which forms its western boundary. In admiration of the sparkling water of the stream, the *Indians* named it *rippling*, which is the translation of Coosa. The county was organized in 1832. It partakes largely of the characteristics which prevail in the adjoining counties. Both as a mineral and agricultural county, Coosa is greatly favored.

It has an area of 670 square miles.

Population in 1880, 15,113; population in 1890, 15,906. White, 10,552; colored, 5,354.

Area planted in cotton, 28,698 acres; in corn, 27,103 acres; in oats, 8,882 acres; in wheat, 1,152 acres; in tobacco, 40 acres; in rye, 14 acres.

Cotton production—10,141 bales.

The face of the county is uneven, being diversified with precipitous hills, deep valleys, beautiful terraces, with broad districts of undulating surface. The character of the soil is varied. The dominating lands are the red and gray, with occasional belts of thinner soils, which are mostly found along the hills and ridges. There are also many broad and beautiful valleys in the county, the productiveness of which exceeds that of any other land. Upon the lands which skirt the streams are found the splendid cotton fields of Coosa, as well as upon the best red and gray uplands. These valleys have a considerable depth of rich soil, mixed with vegetable matter—the accumulation of ages. The principal crops are cotton, corn, oats, wheat, sweet potatoes and sorghum. The three crops first named grow to rank luxuriance when planted upon lands favorable to their production. The soil is capable of producing valuable grasses, and the fine stock in which the county abounds shows what may be accomplished in this branch of industry.

Near the center of the county, between two of its principal streams, are found many high ridges which are clad in the noblest

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specimens of yellow or long-leaf pine. This district of valuable timber extends to the Talladega line. The other timbers comprise several kinds of oak and hickory, together with occasional patches of short-leaf pine.

Embosomed in the numerous high hills, already mentioned, which prevail between Weoguffka and Hatchet Creeks, are deposits of iron ore which seem inexhaustible. A granite belt of value exists between the towns of Bradford and Oxford. Tantalite, copper, tin, asbestos, emery, soapstone, corundum, kaolin, with traces of gold and silver, are also found. Mica also abounds.

At Kellyton is a thriving cotton mill, known as the Bradford Factory. Water-power is abundant in the multitude of streams that flow through Coosa, chief among which are Coosa River, Hallet, Weoguffka, and Paint Creeks. Rockford, Kellyton, Bradford, Nixburg and Goodwater are the principal towns. The Columbus and Western Railroad has been extended to Birmingham. The Anniston and Atlantic Railroad is being built to Goodwater.

School and religious facilities abound throughout the county, and at several of the towns named are schools of more than ordinary grade. The people are hospitable, and favorably disposed toward strangers seeking homes in their midst.

Lands vary in price from $2 to $12 per acre, their value depending upon their grade and location. Coosa is a county of radiant promise, and, when its internal wealth shall be known, it will be brought up alongside the most progressive counties in the State. It deserves high consideration at the hands of those seeking a favorable location for settlement. In the county are found 4,000 acres of government land awaiting occupation.

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CHILTON COUNTY.

WHEN this county was organized in 1868 it was called Baker, which name it retained until 1875, when in honor of Judge W. P. Chilton it received its present designation. Chilton occupies the geographical center of the State. Wonderful advances have been made in the industries of the county within the last few years. From 1870 to 1880 the population of Chilton was almost doubled. It has an area of 700 square miles.

Population in 1880, 10,793; population in 1890, 14,549. White, 11,483; colored, 3,066.

Area planted in cotton, 15,950 acres; in corn, 18,076 acres; in oats, 3,990 acres; in wheat, 306 acres; in rye, 10 acres; in tobacco, 19 acres.

Cotton Production—6,233 bales.

Chilton is varied both with respect to the face of the country and the character of the lands. In the eastern portion there is a high ridge which forms the watershed between the Coosa and Alabama Rivers. Along the southern border of the county the surface is uneven. This irregularity of the face of the county extends northward for some distance.

The soils vary from the rich brown and red loam lands to the most sterile. In the western portion of the county, and especially in the regions lying contiguous to Mulberry Creek and its tributaries, are found the best agricultural lands. It is here that the population is denser than elsewhere in Chilton. This is emphatically the farming section of the county. On the opposite side (the eastern) of the county are found altogether a different class of industries. Extensive pine forests are a prevailing feature here. They are spread over the knolls and hills which hold within their bosoms deposits of minerals. To what extent these minerals exist has not yet been discovered. Professor Eugene A. Smith, State Geologist, affirms that there is a greater variety of minerals in Chilton than in any other county in Alabama. He did not think, however, that they were, in any instance, abundant. They consist

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of mica, graphite, iron, copper, silver and gold. Copper and gold mines have been operated with some success.

The timber resources of Chilton are very extensive as is indicated by the fact that there are twenty-nine saw mills in the county. These comprise some of the largest mills and lumber industries in the State. Many of these are found along the line of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad. It will be inferred from the foregoing that the forests of Chilton are composed almost entirely of the yellow or long-leaf pine.

As the timber is cleared off these lands, they are brought into cultivation and yield readily in response to proper fertilizing. Corn, cotton, oats, wheat and rice are the principal crops. The cultivation of rice for market has been undertaken within the last few years with the most gratifying results. It will ultimately prove a source of great revenue to the county. It has been tested in the refineries of New Orleans and pronounced equal to the best grades produced upon the famous rice plantations of South Carolina.

Advantages for the shipment of products to distant markets are afforded by the splendid line of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad, which passes directly through the heart of the county. The East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia Railroad also passes through the county.

There is no lack of water, as the county is drained by the Little Cahaba and Coosa Rivers, and Chestnut, Swift, Big and Little Mulberry, and Blue Creeks.

The places of the greatest importance are Clanton, the county-seat, with a population of 600, Verbena, Maplesville, and Mountain Creek. Two of these points—Verbena and Mountain Creek—have become somewhat noted as summer resorts. At the former place an elegant hotel has been erected, both for summer and winter boarders; while at the latter point neat cabins of summer visitors dot the slopes and crown the high ridges. Families from Montgomery and neighboring towns have established these tasteful retreats in order that they may find a pleasant refuge from the heat and dust of the city. Both these points are growing in popularity as places of summer resort.

Good schools are found at every center of interest in the county.

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At Clanton and Verbena the schools are of high grade and the moral influences good. Churches of different denominations also abound.

Immigrants or investors desiring to purchase lands in this county may obtain them for prices ranging from $1 to $15 per acre. Knowing how much depends upon an increased population of thrifty habits, the people of this county are eager to encourage such to establish homes in their midst.

Chilton county embraces 3,320 acres of land belonging to the general government.

TUSCALOOSA COUNTY.

THE county of Tuscaloosa was organized in 1818. It is called from the Indian name of its principal stream. It is one of the most noted counties of the State, its principal city having once been the capital of Alabama, and being now the seat of the State University, the Insane Asylum, as well as that of a number of female schools of distinction.

The elements of wealth of Tuscaloosa county are varied. There is a great variety of soils as well as productions, and the county has considerable wealth of minerals.

It has an area of 1,390 square miles.

Population in 1880, 24,957; population in 1890, 30,352. White, 18,261; colored, 12,091.

Area planted in cotton, 39,437 acres; in corn, 37,640 acres; in oats, 7,090 acres; in wheat, 13 acres; in rye, 27 acres; in tobacco, 5 acres.

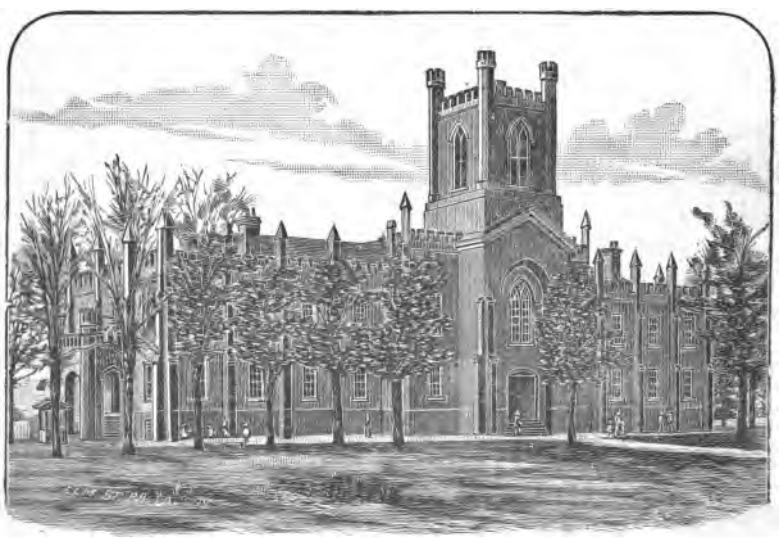
Cotton Production—13,008 bales.

These estimates are taken from the last national census report.

Throughout the county of Tuscaloosa, the surface is hilly and broken. This irregularity prevails more in some quarters than in others, perhaps, but this is the general rule. The lands vary

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greatly in their fertility. In the eastern, northeastern and northern parts of the county, there are but few lands of any great value for purposes of cultivation. The soil is sandy, though there are districts where the land is found quite productive. Fertilizers, judiciously used, would make even the most unpromising soils, in these sections of the county, productive. Through the center of Tuscaloosa, and in the western and southern portions, the most valuable and remunerative soils are found. The lands most esteemed by farmers are those lying along the streams. These bottoms are, in some sections, very narrow, but are almost invariably fertile. The best lands for planting lie along the Warrior River in the lower portion of the county. After this river sweeps past the city of Tuscaloosa, the bottoms begin to broaden, and



STATE UNIVERSITY.

have long been in cultivation. In this section are found some of the most inviting farms in the State. Both corn and cotton yield quite abundantly. The greater part of the cotton crop of Tuscaloosa county is raised upon the valley lands. It must not be inferred from the foregoing that the productive soils are restricted to the basins of the county. Such is not the fact. There is a large quantity of upland soil which is much prized for its productive capabilities. It is estimated that fully one-half of the

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tillable soils of Tuscaloosa county are devoted to the production of cotton. Corn, oats, peas, rye, and sorghum, grow with great readiness. Grasses and clovers grow splendidly when cultivated. Through the forests and upon the old fields and castaway lands, there is, during three-fourths of the year, a sward of native clovers and grasses, which afford excellent pasturage facilities to stock. This, taken in connection with the fact that the county is remarkably well watered, especially in such sections as where the best herbage springs, indicates the favorableness of this section to stock-raising. Appreciating the fact, many of the inhabitants are already engaged in this lucrative branch of industry.

The forests of the county are stocked with yellow or long-leaf pine, which grows abundantly and at great height; the beech, white, red, blackjack, and Spanish oaks, sweet gum, poplar, elm, hichory, bay, cherry, and cottonwood. There are many saw-mills in the county devoted to the manufacture of lumber. The numerous streams which flow through these immense forests usually have considerable fall, and afford many valuable seats for mills and other similar enterprises. The water-power of the county is immense. The mineral wealth of the county, though largely undeveloped, is great. It has been estimated that nearly, if not quite, five-sevenths of the total area of the county contains coal. The quality of the coal is good. The coal measures of this county are regarded the thickest of the Warrior coalfield, and, indeed, the thickest known to exist in the world. Nothing more than a bare mention can be made here of the extensive mineral wealth of the county. To those interested in the examination of the matter, reference is made to the accurate report of Professor Henry McCalley, assistant State geologist, on the Warrior coalfield. It is published under the auspices of the State, and is for gratuitious distribution. Flagging stone and maganese are found in the county. Transportation is secured through the Alabama Great Southern Railroad and the Warrior river. The former of these furnishes commercial facilities to New Orleans and Cincinnati, and the latter opens up a natural highway to the gulf. The new Railroad from Mobile to the Tennessee River is expected to run through this county. The Alabama Midland will also be built soon to the city of Tuscaloosa. These, together

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with the natural advantages, render Tuscaloosa an inviting point for residence.

As has already been intimated, the water supply of the county is exhaustless. The streams are the Black Warrior, Sipsey, and North Rivers; and Valley, Yellow, Grant's Rock Castle, Wolf, Shoal, Davis, and Big Sandy Creeks. Several of these penetrate large districts of heavy, valuable timber. In the low places, usually along the creeks, are found dense brakes of wild cane, which is greatly relished by stock. Fruit of several varieties abound throughout the county. Chief among these are apples, peaches, pears, plums, cherries, and strawberries. There are



HAMILTON HALL OF SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY.

several thriving industries in the county, among which may be named the Tuscaloosa Cotton Mills, at Cottondale; and the Tuscaloosa Cotton Factory, the iron foundry, and the cotton-seed oil mills, near the city of Tuscaloosa. Other industries are in contemplation.

The points of interest in the county are Tuscaloosa, the county-seat, with a population of 6,000; Northport, Cottondale, and Fosters.

Tuscaloosa is one of the most inviting points in the State, both

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as a place of residence and as a manufacturing location. Its proximity to the great mineral fields, and its location at the head of navigation on the Warrior, give it decided advantage as a manufacturing point.

For many years it has been the seat of the University of Alabama, one of the most distinguished literary institutions of the South. Institutions for female education also exist. The city has long been noted for its beauty, its broad streets, shaded by the native water-oak; its handsome churches, superb school buildings and attractive residences. In social culture, it is the peer of any Southern city. Its location is favorable to the planting of industrial enterprises. Just beyond its limit is the falls of the Warrior River, which, by reason of their immense power, are admirably suited to the location of manufactories. Surrounded by so many elements of natural wealth, and possessing a healthfulness of location, the city of Tuscaloosa is destined to great prominence in the future. It is located at the head of navigation of the Warrior River, and enjoys commercial relations with Mobile through a line of steamers.

Recently the city of Tuscaloosa has experienced a great material development. Many manufactories have been established, a superb hotel has been built, a large number of handsome homes have been established, street car and dummy lines put into successful operation, waterworks and electric plants secured, and a large ice factory has been built. The indications are that several other railroads will be extended to Tuscaloosa. Indeed, one important line, the Memphis, Montgomery & Tuscaloosa Railroad, is now being pushed rapidly toward completion. Work has been begun at both ends of the route. A road is also being constructed southward across important mineral fields from Bessemer. The object of this line is to cross the Alabama Great Southern and reach the Louisville & Nashville.

An iron bridge spans the river in the northwestern part of the city, and unites it with the thrifty town of Northport, beyond the Warrior. Lands are variously estimated in different portions of the county, and range from $2 to $25 per acre.

Within the limits of the county are 60,240 acres of government land.

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BIBB COUNTY.

THE county of Bibb was established in 1818 and called by the name of Cahaba. Two years later it was changed to that of Bibb, in honor of William W. Bibb, the first Governor of the State.

In some respects Bibb is a most remarkable county, combining in a wonderful manner many elements of wealth, and in great profusion. In minerals it ranks among the foremost counties of Alabama. Its timbers are varied and of superior character, while its lands yield splendidly, and its healthfulness is superior. No one can read an accurate description of Bibb without being impressed with its intrinsic greatness. Its area embraces 610 square miles.

Population in 1880, 9,487; population in 1890, 13,824. White, 9,080; colored, 4,744.

Area planted in cotton, 15,098 acres; in corn, 19,448 acres; in oats, 3,441 acres; in wheat, 27 acres; in rye, 7 acres; in tobacco, 5 acres.

Cotton Production—5,216 bales.

In the main, the face of the country in Bibb is broken. There are, however, many portions of the country which are gently rolling, in which agriculture is prosecuted with gratifying success. There is no lack of fertility in the soil. Along the river bottoms there are vast areas of the most level and fertile lands. In some cases they have been in cultivation nearly half a century, and yet the yield of forty bushels to the acre is not at all unusual. Lying along the Cahaba River there are lands which yield a bale of cotton to the acre. Even along the high ridges where the tallest pines grow, the land is usually of good quality. Many of the best farming lands are found between the center and northeastern corner of the county. The soils are red, buff, and grey. Of these prevailing varieties throughout the county, the red lands are superior in fertility, and are usually chosen by planters for grain, while the gray and brown soils are devoted to the production of cotton. In the southern half of the county the lands are

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both red and brown and seem most eagerly sought by planters because of the conjunction of these cotton and grain soils.

Here are consequently found many excellent lands for farms. Perhaps the greater part of the cotton produced in the county is grown upon the brown loam lands. Cotton, grain, and the esculents grow with equal readiness, the principal crops being cotton, corn, oats, wheat, rye, sugar-cane, sweet potatoes, rice and field peas. Herbage of different varieties flourishes, as is attested by the superior stock with which one meets in every part of the county. Some of the finest horses and best milch cows in the State are found in Bibb. With proper facilities stock-raising could be made quite a lucrative branch of business.

The numerous hill and ridge ranges in the county are full of iron, coal, marble, and limestone. All these exist in great and varied abundance. The iron ores are not surpassed for purity by any others in the State. They are principally brown hemitite. Taken in connection with the fact that adjacent to these vast deposits of iron lie the famous Cahaba coalfields, and one can readily see the elements of a colossal prosperity which are possessed by the county of Bibb. The whole northern portion of the county is one solid domain of splendid coal. An additional advantage is suggested by the proximity of these minerals to the Alabama River, where they can be readily loaded upon barges and floated to the Gulf of Mexico. Or, else, large barges could be floated down the Cahaba River, if it were cleared of its barriers, and thence upon the broad bosom of the Alabama. Thus the county is highly favored in the possession of these vast resurces of minerals, as it is in possessing facilities for cheap transportation to the Southern seas, and thence to the regions beyond. For several years the enterprising citizens of Selma have been contemplating the construction of a line of communication with these extensive natural deposits of coal and iron, and with the deep water transportation afforded in that direction, these elements of mineral wealth will no doubt seek that route to the sea.

The limestone and marble deposits of the county are certainly wonderful. Along precipitous hillsides there are solid walls of these valuable stones, revealing in some instances a height of fully fifty feet. This is a common occurrence along both the Little

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and Big Cahaba Rivers. In addition to this, great bowlders of limestone as large as cottages lie along the face of the country. These deposits, both of marble and limestone, may be quarried with great ease and slight expense. These mammoth quarries of limestone and marble are in close proximity to the deposits of iron and coal. The quantities of these natural elements of wealth—coal, iron, marble, and limestone—seem to be inexhaustible. The county also contains manganese, barytes, and ochre. Standing in immediate connection with these are the forests of the county, which embrace all the hard woods, such as the several species of oak, poplar, elm, beech, gum, maple, and pine. Vast bodies of first-class timber oftentimes overspread the mineral treasures which are hidden beneath.

The country is not excelled in the abundance and excellence of its water. Magnificent springs of the purest limestone gush forth unceasingly and in the greatest quantities from the rugged hills which abound. Again, in other sections, there are immense springs of freestone. Large portions of the population use water from these numerous and perpetual springs.

The streams are: The Cahaba and Little Cahaba Rivers, and Shade's, Sandy, Blue Cat, Haysoppy, Afonce, Mahan's, Hill's and Shoultz Creeks. These possess immense water-power. In addition to its deep and rapid current, Shoultz Creek is bordered sometimes by limestone banks which rise as high as seventy-five feet. The inclination and pitch of all these streams suggest the ease with which they might be employed in connection with the mechanical arts. Many of the streams of Bibb wend their way through high ramparts of marble and limestone.

There are five extensive public industries in Bibb, viz: The Brierfield Coal and Coke Works, and the nail factory, foundry and furnace at Brierfield, and the establishment of the Cahaba Coal and Coke Company in the western part of the county.

The East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia Railroad penetrates the eastern portion of the county, furnishing transportation to the inhabitants of that section, while those further west resort to the Alabama Great Southern Railroad, as it touches the county in that direction. There is a short line operated from Woodstock, on the Alabama Great Southern, to Blocton, where thrive some

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of the greatest industries in central Alabama. The Birmingham Mineral Railroad also runs through the county.

A line of great value is the Mobile & Birmingham. The purpose of the proprietors of this line is to have it ultimately to penetrate the heart of the two great coal regions of Alabama—The Warrior and the Cahaba Coalfields. When completed, this will develop the resources of Bibb as nothing else can. The other railroads which touch the county now barely skirt around the edge of the famous Cahaba Coalfield; this road will strike through its center.

The places of greatest importance are Centreville, the county-seat, with a population of several hundred; Scottsville, Six Mile, Blocton, Randolph, Greenpond, and Brierfield. These are favored with educational and religious advantages. At Centreville, Six Mile, and Greenpond there are schools of high merit. As in every other county in the State, there is a common school system which reaches every precinct and applies to all classes of population in the county.

The value of lands will depend upon their improvement, location, topography, and nearness to railroads. They may be purchased for $2.50 per acre, and will range from this to $20 per acre. The eyes of capitalists are being eagerly turned to this county, and the salable lands are being rapidly taken up. In view of the advantages already possessed by the county, coupled with those that are destined soon to be secured, no section of the State affords rarer advantages to those seeking locations for future homes, or for capitalists seeking a profitable outlay of money.

Government land to the extent of 2,880 acres are embraced in the county.

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FAYETTE COUNTY.

CREATED in 1824, the county was named for General La-Fayette, of Revolutionary fame. It is in that part of the State which has been most lavishly endowed by nature with all that makes a section great, but is comparatively unknown, because of the non-existence previously of railroads. This barrier is now removed, as the Georgia Pacific Railway, and Kansas City, Memphis & Birmingham Railroad, penetrate the county, the one crossing from east to west on the south side and the other from east to west on the north side.

Fayette has an area of 660 square miles.

Population in 1880, 10,135; population in 1890, 12,823. White, 11,141; colored, 1,682.

Area planted in cotton, 18,670 acres; in corn, 25,666 acres; in oats, 4,604 acres; in wheat, 217 acres; in rye, 55 acres; in tobacco, 15 acres.

Cotton production—6,141 bales.

Fayette county is a fine average upland region, diversified with hills and valleys, in the midst of which are found perpetual streams. Its climate possesses all the brace and vigor which characterize a region of health. The soils of Fayette are much above the average in fertility. The uplands are covered generally with oak, which sufficiently indicates that they are prolific. The valley lands, which follow along the many streams which flow through the county are generally very rich. The prevailing and most important soil of Fayette, is that of a brown loam, with red clay subsoil. There are other lands which are thinner and less fertile. There are several noted valley regions in the county, among which may be named the Sipsey Valley, which is about thirty miles long, and two or three wide; the Luxapalila Valley, which is very much like the Sipsey in area and fertility; the North River Valley, which is about twenty miles in length, and one wide.

These lands produce a great diversity of crops, among which may be named cotton, corn, wheat, oats, rye, sorghum and sugar-cane. Large quantities of productions of minor crops are also

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made, such as cow-peas, peanuts, tobacco and pumpkins. The fruits for which the county is adapted, are apples and peaches. Orchards of these fruits grow quite vigorously, and produce abundantly. Greater attention is now being given them than ever before.

The undulating lands of Fayette, where they have not been brought into cultivation, are covered over with forests of post, red and black-jack oaks, chestnut, and short-leaf pines. A sufficiency of timber exists for all practical purposes.

In addition to the agricultural productions already named, may be mentioned the fact that attention in several quarters is now being turned to the cultivation of grasses. Since the formation of the county, stock has been abundant and of excellent quality. During the war the county of Fayette furnished many beef cattle to the armies of the Confederacy. Large numbers of beeves are annually shipped from the county to distant markets. Wool-growing is rapidly developing into a profitable industry.

But the dominant feature of Fayette is its wealth of minerals. Iron and coal are widely diffused over the county. These exist all along the eastern portion of the county, and also in the northern part, while in the western section is found a vast abundance of iron; gold and red ochre also exist. In addition to these, there exist mammoth quarries of valuable building stone.

All these have been but slightly developed because of absence of transportation.

The water-power of Fayette is immense. The inclination of the streams is generally such as to make them valuable as sources of machinery power. As far as these powerful streams could be utilized, they have been by the residents, who have erected numerous mills upon them, which are devoted to the manufacture of lumber.

The most important streams are Luxapalila, Sipsey and North Rivers, and Lost, Cane, Wolf, Yellow and Hell's Creeks. These through their tributaries, reach every portion of Fayette.

In some parts of the county are found many chalybeate and sulphur springs.

Not until of late have the numerous diversities of wealth been recognized in Fayette.

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Both the Georgia Pacific and Kansas City, Memphis & Birmingham roads are now constructed, and they have infused new life and are evoking from their slumbering places the immense deposits of ore known to exist in the county. The Montgomery & Tuskaloosa Railroad will bisect the county from southeast to northwest.

The chief point of interest in the county is Fayette C. H. It has a population of several hundred and possesses good schools, churches, and an intelligent and moral society. The new court house erected in 1892 is located at the Ga. Pac. R. R. depot, one mile south of the old C. H. in one of the prettiest valleys of the beautiful Sipsey; the prettiest town in West Alabama, is rapidly building up around the new C. H. at the new site. This town is destined in no distant day to become a manufacturing centre of more than average importance.

No more alluring field for enterprises and investments can be found within the limits of the State.

Land is generally quite cheap, selling for from $2 to $20 per acre.

There are in the county as yet untaken, 18,200 acres of public or government land. These lands are said to embrace some of the richest mineral districts in the county.

Plans are on foot to secure immigration to the county on the most inviting terms.

LAMAR COUNTY.

THIS county was formed in 1866, and named Jones; in 1868 the name was changed to that of Sandford, and in 1877 its present designation was adopted. Remote from transportation, the county of Lamar has been placed at great disadvantage, notwithstanding its rich stores of mineral and the productiveness of its soils. It covers an are of 550 square miles.

Population in 1880, 12,142; population in 1890, 14,187. White, 12,439; colored, 2,748.

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Area planted in cotton, 20,716 acres; in corn, 25,881 acres; in oats, 5,419 acres; in wheat 319 acres; in rye, 49 acres; in tobacco, 5 acres.

Cotton Production—6,998 bales.

Like the most of this section of Alabama, the surface of Lamar is hilly and unbroken, with many productive valleys. The soil along the oak uplands is superior, while that along the pebbly ridges is barren. The general character of the soils of Lamar is that of red loam. The best lands in the county are those found along the uplands, or table-lands, and those along the banks of the streams. But there is a mixture of sand in all the lands of the county. The soil is easily tilled under all circumstances.

The chief productions of the county are cotton, corn, wheat, and oats. Sorghum and sugar-cane are being extensively cultivated. The timber interests are assuming larger proportions every year. Nearly, or quite one-half, of the tilled lands of Lamar are devoted to the production of cotton. Grasses grow here spontaneously, and afford rich pasturage for stock. Better grasses are cultivated, and much attention is devoted to stock-raising, and, with commercial outlets, this would be one of the chief industries of the county. The forests of Lamar are heavily timbered with short-leaf pine, the various species of oak, hickory, ash, chestnut, and sassafras. It is one of the best fruit producing counties in the State.

The drainage of Lamar is secured through Buttahatchie River and Luxapalila, Beaver, Coal Fire, and Yellow Creeks, all of which have long branches or tributaries. Along these streams flourishing lumber and flour mills are met with. The River and Creeks are finely suited to machinery by reason of their immense water-power.

The mineral products of the county are iron, coal, and valuable stones for building purposes.

The county now enjoys railroad transportation since the passage of the Georgia Pacific and the Kansas City, Memphis & Birmingham through its territory. The completion of these great lines has greatly facilitated the development of the county.

Vernon, Sulligent, Crews, Kennedy and Millport are towns of local importance, the first mentioned being the county-seat.

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Schools and churches are found in every part of the county. Vernon, Crews and Millport have chartered schools. The Vernon Institute was established about 20 years ago, and has flourished from the beginning. The Crews Normal College and the Farmer's College at Millport are much younger, but are quite capable. A good school exists also at Sulligent.

Immigrants desiring cheap lands will do well to examine the merits of the lands of this county. It has a quantity of public or government land. The prices of land vary from $2 to $8 or $10 per acre.

Because of its climate, healthfulness, mineral resources, and location, Lamar will, one day, be one of the most progressive regions of Alabama. It contains 360 acres of government land.

THE COTTON BELT.

THE Cotton, or Black Belt of Alabama lies directly south of the great Mineral Belt of the State. It extends from east to west—from limit to limit of the State—and embraces seventeen counties, viz: Pickens, Sumter, Choctaw, Greene, Hale, Marengo, Perry, Dallas, Wilcox, Autauga, Lowndes, Elmore, Montgomery, Macon, Bullock, Russell and Barbour. It covers an area of 13,610 square miles, being a little more than one-fourth of the entire State. The surface of this section is mostly rolling prairie and of great fertility, being unexcelled by any soil in the American Union.

The soil in the richer portions is very black, or of a dark color, and contains a great deal of lime. The broad prairies are broken here and there by considerable districts of timber, embracing the pine, different varieties of oak, hickory, gum, beech, maple, and magnolia. This Belt is highly favored in transportation, as all the principal rivers of the State, except the Tennessee, flow directly through it, and empty into the Gulf of Mexico upon the south. No section of the Union is more highly favored with grand water-ways than the Cotton and Timber Belts of Alabama. Enlarged facilities for travel are afforded by the great railway

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systems which penetrate it. In this particular again is the Cotton Belt most liberally favored, the lines of railroad which penetrate being the chief thoroughfares of railway in the South, viz: The Louisville & Nashville, with its different branch ways, the Queen & Cresent line, the Western Railroad of Alabama, the East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia, and the Central of Georgia. Other lines are now projected, which will afford additional facilities for transportation to this highly favored region. Notably among these may be mentioned the Pensacola & Meridian Railroad, and the new line which is being pushed from Mobile to Birmingham, which will not only pierce the most fertile sections of the great Cotton Belt, but will also penetrate the heart of the richest mineral regions of the Union. Other important lines also traverse the Cotton Belt, such as the Montgomery & Florida Railroad, which already extends considerably below Montgomery and is being rapidly built toward the most fertile sections of Florida.

As an agricultural region this famous Belt can not be surpassed. Until a few years ago, agriculture was the only pursuit of the people of the Cotton Belt, but there has gradually grown up a diversification of pursuits which are being profitably followed.

In 1860 this Belt produced two-thirds of the cotton and one-half of the corn crop of Alabama, Wheat, rye, oats, tobacco, sorghum, millet, sugar-cane, sweet and Irish potatoes, rice and peanuts, produce with great readiness; while of the orchard, apples, peaches, pears, grapes, apricots, figs, pomegranates, watermelons, plums, strawberries, raspberries, and others thrive with readiness, and in many instances are proving quite remunerative.

Grasses and clovers spring spantaneously in all districts that lie out, and, when cultivated, they are wonderfully prolific. Along the numerous streams grows in rank luxuriance the swamp cane, which in its native wildness once overspread large sections of this Belt and gave it the significant name of Canebrake. This growth is usually restricted to the branches, creeks, and rivers, and remaining perpetually green, it serves as a fresh and delicious forage to stock during the brief winters which prevail. For many years it has been the custom of planters to leave their stock in the plantations to subsist upon this nutritious growth. Eaten down in the winter, it readily rallies the following spring, and is fresh,

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tender, and luxuriant for the winter next succeeding. These furnish an index of the boundless capabilities of this favored region.

While cotton must ever remain an indispensible adjunct of civilization, and while it will hold a conspicuous place among the products of the globe, yet the planter of the South is not so absorbed in the production of cotton as he has heretofore been. Where the fleecy fibre held undisputed sway for so many years together, it has now been forced to divide its sovereignty with a large per centage of food crops. In 1880-'81, the cotton production of Alabama was 740,000 bales; in 1881-'82, 700,000 bales; in 1882-'83, 780,000 bales; in 1883-'84, 605,000 bales; in 1884-'85, 650,000 bales; in 1885-'86, 760,447 bales.

Turning to the production of grain, we find that in 1880 the corn crop of Alabama resulted in about 25,000,000 bushels, and the oat crop in about 3,000,000 bushels. In 1885, the corn crop ran up to more than 30,000,000 bushels, while the oat crop went to 5,000,000 bushels. This points to a gradual equalization of the agricultural products of the State—to a gradual declination of cotton and inclination of food crops. Time will serve to equalize these and other products more, and in this lies the future hope of the agricultural prosperity of the States of the South. By a decrease in the production of cotton, there will be a corresponding increase of its market value by one of the plainest principles of political economy, while its decrease again will indicate an increase of grain or food crops, and this will inevitably lead to the raising of stock, and these together will lead to the restoration of our agricultural system under a new *regime*. Diversified tillage means a diversity of avenues which lead to prosperity, so that whereas in former years the producer was reliant upon only one staple for his revenue, he finds that many will come to lay their tribute at his feet. And notwithstanding in former years our cities were built, our railroads were constructed, and our educational institutions were founded upon capital derived from the production of cotton, we will find that in the years to come the multiplied allies will greatly reinforce the revenue growing from the fleecy fibre, and will proportionately impart expression to the increasing evidence of prosperity in the establishment of other cities, in the enlargement of those existing in the multiplication

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of railway lines, and in thronging our great water-ways with packets of transportation.

Jubilant as we are over the rapid developments made in the mineral regions of Alabama, and appreciating these as colossal contributions to the prosperity of the State present and future, yet Alabama is far more largely an agricultural than a manufacturing State. The demoralization incident to the great civil war, the shattered system of labor, the destruction of agricultural implements and machinery, and the incapacity of Southern planters to accommodate themselves to this chaotic state of things, served to bring out vast agricultural interests into disrepute. And when the mineral resources of our State flashed into sudden prominence, the temptation was great to forsake the old and cling to the new.

And this accounts for the comparative obscurity of our information concerning the vast capabilities of our agricultural lands. To-day the bulk of our people are unaware of the vast treasures of wealth which our fertile soils are capable of yielding. Instead of having induced frugal, thrifty immigrants to come and occupy our expansive agricultural regions, we have really suffered residents to leave by thousands and to locate in distant States, where the lands are not a whit superior to ours, and where the surrounding advantages, in the way of water, fuel and healthfulness, are far fewer. The mineral resources, their extent, superiority and development have not been advertised too much, but our agricultural capabilities have been made too little of. In the darkness which fell upon us when our slaves were liberated, our labor system was shattered, and our fertile fields were turned out, we were groping for the light of relief. That came when the treasures of mineral were found in exhaustless quantities through almost one-third of our great Commonwealth.

But what would minerals be to a region without agriculture? Every interest is more or less dependent upon agriculture, and must rise or fall with the increase or decrease of the products of the field.

Happily for us, our people have again addressed themselves, with becoming earnestness, to the restoration of a labor system suited to the demands of the period. The lands which have long

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been surrendered to the tangled vine and riotous weed are being reclaimed, farms are taking the place of immense plantations, decay and waste are being arrested by judicious fertilization, and instead of wringing the last vestige of nutriment from the soils in the production of a single plant, rotation has been substituted and diversification has been adopted.

It is a short-sited policy to disregard any of the capabilities of a great Commonwealth like Alabama. That our agricultural districts have been neglected, no one can deny. More than two decades have gone by since our lands were suffered to pass under the ban of negligence.

There has been a struggle to maintain a footing in the agricultural districts. Steadily the planter is improving, but the lands go begging in the market. Where is the hope of subsequent relief? Shall we abandon the fertile soils of a great region like the Cotton Belt, and seek other pursuits? Our relief is in the settlement of men of thrift and energy upon our fertile and expansive fields, to transform them from wildernesses into gardens of beauty and profit. We should seek to bring our agricultural advantages up alongside the mineral.

Our minerals, our farm products, and our peerless timbers are three great elements of prosperity.

The geographical relations which they sustain, indicate the beneficent wisdom of God. Lying between the two great agricultural regions of Alabama, is the wonderful Mineral Belt. While the one produces the ore from the hill and mountain, it is sustained by the bread grown upon the other, while the sweeps of forest supply the necessary timber. Thus do these great districts aid and sustain each other.

The agricultural development of the State, and indeed of the entire South, has been seriously retarded by the systems of labor which have obtained, and which were hastily adopted when the system under the old *regime* was seen going to pieces.

There are three systems of cultivation which are now prevalent in the South, viz: the wages, the share, and the renting system. These each have their disadvantages which need not be discussed here. But what is needed most of all, is the distribution of small

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farms throughout the planting areas of the State. This can not be done without a large and thrifty population.

Such a population is desired and will meet a cordial welcome by the best citizens of this State. They own the land in vast abundance and are eager for thrifty occupants.

That there is much ignorance concerning the capability of our soil, the healthfulness of our climate and the record of our criminality can not be denied.

To correct these impressions, statements of facts gathered from the most authentic sources are needed. The statements hereinafter made, concerning the wonderful capabilities of our fields, are based upon the most authentic information.

The advantages possessed by each county are carefully presented for the consideration of those seeking homes in the fertile agricultural belt of Alabama.

PICKENS COUNTY.

PICKENS was constituted in 1820, and named after General Andrew Pickens of South Carolina. It is the furthest north of the counties of the Cotton Belt, being directly west of Tuscaloosa county, and between that county and the eastern boundary of Mississippi. While it is a cotton county the indications are that there are limited deposits of coal, iron and lead in Pickens. It is one of the largest counties of the State, having an area of 1,000 square miles.

Population in 1880, 21,479; population in 1890, 22,470. White, 9,284; colored, 13,186.

Area planted in cotton, 59,949 acres; in corn, 38,011; in oats, 7,599 acres; in wheat, 7 acres; in tobacco, 3 acres.

Cotton production—18,904 bales.

The surface in the northeast is hilly and sandy, with alluvial loam in creek bottoms. The soil increases in fertility in the westerly direction, and the valleys of the Tombigbee and its tributaries, and the prairies in the southwestern part of the county are very rich and productive. Some of the lands have been in con-

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tinuous cultivation since first the forests were removed, fully fifty years ago, and yet they are still very prolific.

The productions of the county are cotton, corn, wheat, oats, sweet and Irish potatoes, sorghum, and sugar cane. The best lands, under the intensive system, yield from one to two bales of cotton to the acre, forty to sixty bushels of corn, and from sixty to one hundred and ten bushels of oats. Winter clover, incerne, and Japan clover flourish; Bermuda grass does remarkably well, while red clover, timothy, and orchard grass have given satisfaction in the experiments made in cultivating them.

The fruits grown in the county are such as might be expected of a section with so mild a climate. They are apples, peaches, pears, pomegranates, cherries, nectarines, apricots, figs, quinces, grapes, scuppernongs, strawberries, and raspberries. The bland climate enables them to ripen rapidly, and to find their way, at an early season, to the market, thereby commanding good prices.

In addition to the above common fruits, prunes, Japan plums, jujubes, Spanish chestnuts, English walnuts, pecans, almonds, and filberts have been planted to a limited extent, and as far as tried. have been somewhat successful, though attended with some difficulty.

The water supplies of the county are extensive. The Tombigbee and the Sipsey Rivers, together with Bogue Chitta, Coalfire, Lubbub, Blubber, Big Bear, and McBee Creeks, are the principal streams. Besides these, there are numerous sources of water in the abounding springs and wells. Artesian wells exist in some parts of the county, and the water supply is perpetual throughout the year.

In most of the streams there are superb fish, which are easily caught, affording much delight to the sportsman.

The transportation facilities of the county are confined at present to the Tombigbee River, which unites with the Alabama, and forms the Mobile River just above the Gulf City. An important railway line is being constructed between Brunswick, Georgia, and Kansas City, Missouri, which will pass directly through Pickens county.

Points of interest are, Carrollton, the county-seat, Pickensville, and Vienna, all of which are towns of much local commercial

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importance. Valuable schools, for males and females, are found in all these places. Indeed, throughout the county are found valuable educational facilities. Excellent houses of worship, which represent the different religious denominations are also found.

The timbers, which are found in the forests of Pickens, embrace the ash, birch, black walnut, cedar, cherry, chestnut, cottonwood, cypress, elm, gum, hickory, maple, mulberry, oak, persimmon, pine, poplar, sycamore, and willow.

Many timbers of the largest character are rafted along the Tombigbee to Mobile, where they command a good price. The excellent oaks are admirably adapted to the manufacture of barrel staves, which are made in great quantities, and find their way to Mobile, where a ready market awaits them.

Lands may be purchased at prices ranging from $5. to $50. Men of sobriety and thriftiness would be welcomed to Pickens, where they would find an orderly and law-abiding community. Pickens county has 5,000 acres of lands belonging to the government.

SUMTER COUNTY.

FORMED in 1832, this county derived its name from that of General Thomas Sumter, of South Carolina. It lies on the Mississippi border, and is in that region of the country which has long been noted for the richness of its lands.

Its area embraces 1,000 square miles.

Population in 1880, 28,728; population in 1890, 29,574. White, 5,943; colored, 23,631.

Area planted in cotton, 82,728 acres; in corn, 45,858 acres; in oats, 2,152 acres; in rye, 1 acre; in tobacco, 13 acres; in sweet potatoes, 1,056 acres.

Cotton Production—25,799 bales.

The general surface of Sumter county is undulating. The northern portion is composed, for the most part, of black prairie lands with a limestone base, with here and there tracts of allu-

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vial soil—making that portion extremely fertile. These broad sweeps of prairie lands are interspersed with ridges and hills, which are capped with sand pebbles. The southern part is composed largely of a sandy soil. This portion of Sumter embraces what is known as the Flatwoods, which are from three to five miles broad. These occur near the center of the county. In this flatwood region there is a variety of soil. The high table-lands, which are found in the southern part of Sumter, have a sandy loam soil and red loam sub-soil. Occasionally deep bed of sand is found. Unlike the lands in northern Sumter, these need, generally, some fertilization. This remark applies with aptness to the flatwoods, which are barren in their virgin state, but which produce with readiness when the deficiencies in plant food are supplied.

The soils of Sumter produce, chiefly, corn, cotton, oats, peas, sorghum, sugar-cane, sweet and Irish potatoes. Prior to the war vast quantities of wheat were raised. Many large planters produced a sufficiency for home consumption, and a flouring mill at Gainesville did an immense business with domestic wheat-growers.

All the fruits known to the South are raised here, many being quite fine. Apples, peaches, pears, plums, the various berries, figs, pecans, and watermelons are easily produced. Grapes do remarkably well, especially in the sandy soils.

The county has long been noted for its superior stock, and the people within the last few years are improving their breeds with such results as to make stock-raising profitable. Grasses and native clovers flourish upon the stiffer lands, and remain green almost the entire year. Bermuda grass is cultivated. Johnson and other grasses thrive both in the fields and upon the lands which have been turned out. Many fine herds of cattle and sheep are seen, and superior horses and mules.

The forests abound in short and long-leaf pine, white, red, turkey, water and post oaks, hickory, chestnut, black and sweet gums, ash, popular, walnut and cedar.

In the southern portion of the county beds of lignite are frequently met with. One of these beds, in a cut along the Ala-

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bama Great Southern Railroad, has been on fire for many years. At some future time this coal will prove serviceable as a fuel.

In some parts of Sumter are found mineral springs and wells. A mineral artesian well, more than one thousand feet deep, at Livingston, is a place of frequent resort. Its curative properties are wonderful and the well is destined to become one of the favorite resorts of the South. In connection with the well are excellent hotels, which afford facilities of comfort to those visiting the town for the purpose of drinking the waters. Persons resort to these waters from every section of the Union. For dyspepsia they are said to be superior to the famous waters of Waukesha.

Sumter abounds in perennial streams, chief among which are the Tombigbee River, which forms the eastern boundary, the Noxubee and Sucarnotchee Rivers, and the Bodka, Jones, Toomsooba, Kinterbish, Silver, Yellow and Alamutchee Creeks. These streams are fed by many tributaries, which flow at convenient points over the territory of the county.

Transportation lines abound throughout Sumter. The Alabama Great Southern and the East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia Railroads both traverse the county and cross at York. A road is expected soon to unite Gainesville with Narkeeta, Miss. Both the Tombigbee and Noxubee Rivers are navigable. These several lines place the county in readiest communication with the North, West, East, and extreme South.

The points of interest in the county are Livingston, the county-seat, with a population of 1,000, Gainesville, Epes, York, Cuba, and Warsaw. In most of these places the tone of society is excellent.

Educational facilities are good throughout the county.

At Livingston there is a High School for boys and young men. There is also a Normal College for girls. This is a school of great repute, and conducted by educators of distinction. Belmont, York, Cuba, Sumterville, Brewerville and Gainsville have excellent schools. A common school system for all classes prevails throughout the county.

Lands may be purchased for prices ranging from $2 to $12 per acre. Many of these lands embrace beds of marl. This

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fertilizer is mined in large quantities, near Coatopa, and shipped to Meridian, Mississippi.

Sumter county embraces 680 acres of government land.

CHOCTAW COUNTY.

CHOCTAW COUNTY was established in 1847. It has been usually classed among the timber counties of the State, but its fertile lands, which are so largely productive of cotton, and its location, give it a place in the rank of cotton counties. It is highly favored, both with respect to its magnificient forests of timbers and its domains of fertile soil. Some of the most splendid cotton plantations of the South are found in Choctaw county. The area is 930 square miles.

Population in 1880, 15,731; population in 1890, 17,526. White, 8,209; colored, 9,317.

Area planted in cotton, 37,292 acres; in corn, 24,435 acres; in oats, 2,410 acres; in tobacco, 3 acres,

Cotton Production—13,586 bales.

Both the topography and the soils of Choctaw county are greatly varied. The county throughout is diversified with hills, valleys, and extensive table-lands. These table-lands throughout Choctaw are overlaid with brown loam and sandy soils, which give them great variety.

Near the centre of the county there passes, in a southwesterly direction, a sandy ridge which divides the waters of the two principal streams which flow through it. Both north and south of this ridge are found many valuable farming lands. The soils found in the broad creek bottoms, and those known as "shell prairie," the lands most eagerly sought. The high uplands, which are overspread with a magnificent growth of yellow pine, oak and hickory—are also valuable and easily tilled. In some portions of Choctaw are found regions of land which have a stiff, limy, red loam, while others again are black prairie.

In the neighborhood of the sandy ridge, already alluded to, there is a region of high and steep hills, with deep, narrow ravines.

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But, where the valleys are broad, they are generally fertile, as the soils which compose them have a considerable proportion of lime.

Altogether, the county is a desirable location for residence, as it is healthy and affords soils of every shade and variety. Along the shell prairies and the expansive valleys are found charming farms. Owing to the diversity of lands there is a diversity of crops. Of these, corn, cotton, peas, and oats are the leading. Both domestic and wild grasses, flourish, affording luxuriant herbage to stock. Like the counties of this section of the State, Choctaw is much devoted to stock raising. Cattle, sheep, horses, and mules are raised with gratifying results. Vast numbers of hogs are fattened and slaughtered by the citizens every year for home consumption.

Fruits peculiar to the Southern climate are grown with satisfaction and profit. Excellent peaches and pears are grown in the orchards of Choctaw. The forests abound in wild fruits, such as hickorynuts, plums, persimmons, and the various Southern berries. In some portions of the county there is considerable wild game.

The value of the lands of Choctaw is enhanced in a number of places by reason of the existence of marl beds. Green sand is found at several points along the Tombigbee River. Traces of petroleum have been discovered. Near Bladon Springs there is dug from the earth a soil, the curative properties of which have been pronounced marvelous. Large quantities of this medicine are manufactured in Mobile under the name of Acid Iron Earth.

The pine forests of the county are extensive and valuable. The other varieties of timber are magnolia, chestnut, poplar, gum, cypress, hickory, ash, beech, willow, cedar and bay. Along the streams and in the swampy forests, in the central and southern portions of Choctaw, the trees are draped in long, swaying moss.

The county is as highly favored in its water supplies as any other in the great Cotton Belt. Its water is both excellent and abundant. The chief streams are the Tombigbee River and Okatuppah, Clear, Yantly, Kinterbish, Tickabum, Bogue Chitta, Wanalak Bogue Loosa, Surveyor's, Pascus and Turkey Creeks. The county abounds in many superior springs, both of freestone and mineral waters. One of these mineral springs, Bladon, has

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attained considerable note as a watering place. These famous springs are located just three miles from the Tombigbee River, and are regarded as having superior curative waters. This is especially true concerning diseases of the stomach and liver. The surroundings of these springs are healthy.

The chief towns and villages are Butler, the county seat, with a population of about 300, Mt. Sterling and Pushmatuha. The survey of the projected route of the Pensacola and Memphis Railroad passes directly through Butler and Pushmatuha. This new line, when completed, will impart fresh life to the county and develop its agricultural and timber resources. At present there is no railroad that touches the county. For transportation the people of the county rely largely upon the Tombigbee River, which flows along its eastern border. The Mobile & Ohio Railroad, which runs not a great distance from the western boundary, through the State of Mississippi, affords transportation for the inhabitants of that section.

Schools in nearly every part of the county are good. Butler, Mt. Sterling, Pushmatuha and Blandon Springs, have first-class schools and churches. Educational facilities are within easy reach of every populated section of Choctaw.

Lands may be purchased in many sections of the county at one dollar per acre. They extend in value up to six dollars. Public lands, which are always subject to entry, are found. The people are friendly to immigration. There are 48,920 acres of government land in the county.

GREENE COUNTY.

HAVING been established in 1819, the county was named in honor of General Nathanael Greene, of Rhode Island. The territory of the county lies in the fork of the Warrior and Tombigbee Rivers, and extends as far north as the Sipsey River, which forms a part of its northern boundary. A county so highly favored with water-ways, exceedingly fertile lands, and high social advantages, offers an inviting home to the immigrant and investor. It has an area of 520 square miles.

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Population in 1880, 21,931; population in 1890, 22,007. White, 3,235; colored, 18,772.

Area planted in Cotton—76,384 acres; in corn, 31,034 acres; in oats, 2,398 acres; in rye, 6 acres.

Cotton Production—20,901 bales.

With few exceptions the territory of Greene county forms a vast rolling prairie of surpassing fertility. In the northern end of the county there is a broken surface which slopes away into a gentle undulation towards the south. Along the Warrior River, on the east, there are bottoms of the most prolific soils, while back toward the west there is a gradual ascent to the beautiful table-lands, which are overspread with rich, brown, loam soil, and which have a red clay subsoil.

The most fertitle lands lie in the southern and southwestern portions of the county. With the most indifferent method of tillage, they yield from twenty-five to sixty bushels of corn per acre, and from thirty to sixty bushels of oats. Clovers and grasses abound. Among these may be named the red clover, mellilotus and Japan clover. The *mellilotus alba*—a Chilian herb—grows luxuriantly in this region upon the rocks that have been denuded of all surface soil. So rapidly does it thrive that it may be cut with the scythe three times a year. It is relished above all other herbage by stock. In almost every portion of the county grasses and clovers thrive with great readiness.

In the lower part of the county, where the Tombigbee receives the Warrior, which portion is called the "fork," there is a very productive section of alluvial lands, with here and there a sandy ridge overspread with pebble. This was regarded the most noted cotton section in the county before the war, and its capabilities are still unimpaired; but the change of labor has not been favorable to the cultivation of these heavy, fertile lands. The chief crops upon the several soils of Greene county are cotton, corn, oats, sweet and Irish potatoes, and sugar cane. The last-named production is annually increasing. It thrives luxuriantly in the bottoms, is easy to cultivate, and is readily and cheaply converted into first-class molasses and sugar. The bottoms in the northern portion of the county are extensively used in its production. As

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will be seen from the statistics given above, about two-thirds of the lands of Greene are devoted to cotton. The county is emphatically a cotton producing section, but its soils are capable of producing any crop grown upon the lands of the South. Corn grows to perfection. Grasses and clovers, both wild and domestic, flourish luxuriantly; the streams and low places form dense brakes of swamp cane, and thus stock-raising is easy. For many years attention has been given to raising stock.

With the means of transportation at hand, there is no doubt that stock-raising would be the most lucrative industry in which one could engage in Greene county. The timbers in the forests embrace pine, oak, hickory, beech, cypress, cedar, ash, and gum. Fruit trees grow finely and produce well in some parts of the county. Navigable Rivers—the Tombigbee and the Warrior—flow along its western and eastern boundaries, while the Alabama Great Southern Railroad penetrates the county, east and west, and together they present to commerce fine facilities for transportation.

The county is drained by numerous streams which flow into the three rivers, by which it is, in large measure, surrounded. Among these may be named Sim's, Buck's, and Turkey Creeks.

The principal towns are Eutaw, the county-seat, with a population of 1,200; Forkland, Clinton, Pleasant Ridge, and Union, all of which are increasing in importance as social and Commercial centers.

Eutaw has good schools and churches, and a hotel which has won for itself quite a distinction with the traveling public. At all the points named, good schools are to be found, and throughout the country districts the people are alive to the importance of education. Because agricultural lands have not been in demand by immigrants in Central Alabama since the close of the war, and because these lands have not been put upon the market, there has been very little sale, and hence the lands are cheap. They may be purchased at prices ranging from $3 to $13 per acre, and yet their capabilities are remarkable. Before the war these lands could not have been bought for $25 and $50 per acre. Extraordinary inducements are here given to immigrants of thrifty habits. Natural fertilizers prevail in different portions of Greene. There

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is a green sand bed at Pleasant Ridge. Along the banks of the Warrior River at low water there is exposed a bed of green sand between Choctaw Bluff and Erie. This bed is several feet thick, and with the development of the agricultural resources of the county, will prove valuable.

Of late there has been a discovery of considerable beds of Marl and green sand on the dividing line between the clay and the black lands. The extent of these beds is unknown, but they are in thickness from three to ten feet. Experiments of their merits having been made, prove them quite valuable as fertilizers even in their crude state.

Greene county is justly regarded one of the most productive of the counties of this belt. There are about 280 acres of government land in the county.

HALE COUNTY.

THE above named county was founded in 1867, and named for Colonel Stephen F. Hale. It embraces one of the finest agricultural districts in the South. Productive in soil, healthful in climate, abundantly supplied with superior schools, and with an intelligent, thrifty, and progressive people, the county of Hale deservedly ranks among the best in the State. The sole industry of the people is agriculture, with few exceptions. In a limited way, the people are devoted to the manufactures. Its area is 670 square miles.

Population in 1880, 26,553; population in 1890, 27501. White, 5,180; colored, 22,321.

Area planted in cotton, 90,738 acres; in corn, 41,923 acres; in oats, 2,999 acres; in rye, 7 acres; in tobacco, 6 acres.

Cotton production—23,973 bales.

In the northeast the county is hilly, the rest being composed almost entirely of prairie bottoms. There is almost every variety of soil to be found in Hale. The southern portion, being a little less than one-half of its territory, is composed almost entirely of

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black canebrake land, which has a marvelous fertility. The western and northwestern parts of the county furnish a variety of lands, some of which are sandy and others red, which gradually shade off into the dark lands, composing what is called the second Warrior bottom. Most of this land is of excellent quality, being strong, and some, especially that referred to as second bottom, of superior richness. The bottoms along the Warrior River, which constitutes the western boundry line, with few exceptions, are subject to overflow, and are not regarded as valuable as those higher up and beyond the reach of the water mark. Along these lower bottoms there is a terrace of lands called second bottom, which are not exposed to overflow. As has been said, the northern part of the county is more or less hilly. In the midst of these hills, are found table-lands of good quality. This is also true of the lands lying along the streams in this region. The diligent tiller of these soils, with favorable seasons, is sure to reap an abundant harvest. In the northwestern corner of Hale is a district of sandy soil which is not cultivated except in isolated tracts; but the thinness of the soil is atoned for by the abundance of yellow or long-leaf pine, which possesses rare value because of its location and its relation to the adjoining domains of rich prairie lands. In the eastern portion there is a commingling of sand and red loam, which makes the lands exceedingly valuable for agricultural purposes.

The staple productions grown in the South are raised in Hale, viz: Cotton, corn, peas and potatoes. Many other elements are produced, as the statistics at the head of this article will show, and every year increases more and more the variety of crops. Rice, sugar, and tobacco are gradually receiving more attention. Farms for the production of hay are coming annually more into note, and there is a corresponding improvement in stock.

In this county the famous alba mellilotus comes to perfection. Large quantities of seeds are annually gathered from this nutritious hay herb and shipped to every section of the South. During one year when corn was scarce some of the planters of the county had to rely largely upon the mellilotus for food for working stock. It grows here to an amazing height, even upon the rocks from which every visible vestige of soil has been washed.

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The famous Johnson Grass also grows upon many of the plantations of Hale.

The principal timbers which stock the forests of Hale are oak, maple, hickory, gum, long and short-leaf pine, poplar, ash, and along the Warrior bottom there is a considerable quantity of walnut timber. It has been proved by actual experience that the forest trees of California when transplanted to the soil of Hale county grow with great readiness. Among these may be mentioned the famous redwood and the mountain cedar. The Japan cedar also thrives when planted here.

The county abounds in excellent streams, which not only will furnish supplies of water for house and farm purposes, but for the manufactures as well. Chief among the streams may be mentioned Warrior River, Big Prairie, Little Prairie, German, Big, Bush, Five Mile, Hardwick's and Caldwell Creeks. Together with the abounding springs, these streams afford ample supplies of water.

Late geological surveys have established the fact that there are large deposits of phosphate in Hale county.

Means of transportation are furnished by the Warrior River, the Cincinnati, Selma & Mobile, the Alabama Great Southern, and East Tennessee, Virginia and Georgia Railroads.

Places of interest are Greensboro, the county-seat, with a population of 2,000, Newbern, Akron and Havana, all of which are places of promise.

The county is throughout supplied with educational advantages. Greensboro, long noted for its elegance and refinement, is the seat of the Southern University, which is conducted under the auspices of the M. E. Church, South. It is a valuable institution of learning. There are other good schools in the town for both sexes. The same is true of Newbern; it has flourishing schools. In Havana there is a High School for boys and girls, besides other educational advantages. Throughout the county there exists an educational spirit which finds expression in many excellent schools. Religious advantages in the county are also good.

Agricultural lands may be had for from $2 to $20 per acre. Pine lands will cost from $1 to $2 per acre. These lands are

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everywhere supplied with streams of water. Artesian wells abound, especially in the southern portion. A desire prevails to have the county populated with thrifty immigrants.

There are 7,000 acres of government land in Hale county.

MARENGO COUNTY.

THE county of Marengo was established in 1818, and in compliment to the French settlers, who first occupied it, was named in commemoration of Napoleon's great victory. Some of the most charming farm lands of this latitude lie within the territory of this highly favored county. Over its broad surface are found many of the typical Southern plantations. It lies largely within the famous canebrake region. In striking contrast are the vast cotton plantations here found, with the small and neatly cultivated farms of the North and East. Stretching away to illimitable distances are these broad plains of snowy cotton, decked here and there with an old-time mansion and comely houses for the laborers.

Marengo is just now rallying from the severe shock sustained by the emancipation of the slaves and the consequent demoralization of labor. Her fertile plantations are now being gradually reclaimed, and are rapidly assuming their wonted glory.

The county has an area of 960 square miles.

Population in 1880, 30,890; population in 1690, 33,095. White, 7,946; colored, 25,149.

Area planted in cotton, 94,083 acres; in corn, 44,233 acres; in oats, 4,225 acres; in tobacco, 1 acre.

Cotton Production—31,641 bales.

The northern portion of Marengo county is level, or slightly undulating. The soils vary, being partly stiff prairie and partly light sandy loam. There is prevailing, in some parts of this section, a post-oak soil, which is heavy sandy clay of reddish and yellowish colors.

The county is diversified throughout with hills, plains, and fer-

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tile valleys. The great stretches of prairie are broken here and there by a line of hills, which overlook vast regions of country or gaze down upon rich valleys. The several soils are black prairie, which belong to the plains; the mulatto soils, which belong to the higher tablelands, and the gray hammock. As is true throughout the counties of the Black Belt, the most valuable of these soils is the black prairie, but all are valuable under different circumstances. Over these lime lands grows the melilotus, or honey weed, an excellent forage herb, of which stock of all kinds are exceedingly fond. Oftentimes it grows to the height of six feet and overspreads the bare lime rock. Raisers of stock prize it quite highly for its nutritious qualities.

The canebrake lands of Marengo are found in the northern end of the county and extend southward about ten or fifteen miles. These lands have long been proverbial for their marvelous productive qualities.

From about the center southward, the lands become thinner with a sandy surface. About the center of the county occur the "flatwoods," which extend with varying width across the county from east to west. The average width is five or six miles. This region of flatwoods is slightly undulating, and because of the waxiness of the soil, is not sought by the planter. Upon analysis, soils of this peculiar section are found to be deficient in lime, though in some portions of it cotton grows remarkable well. Early in the spring the wild clover, lespedeza, begins to show itself in this flatwoods country, and attains to the height of two or three feet. A finer grazing region was never seen than this flatwoods section, which sweeps without interruption from the Tombigbee to the Alabama river. This wild clover is eagerly sought by all kinds of stock, and lasts from March or April until the coldest periods of winter. Where streams flow across the flatwoods they are thickly bordered with luxuriant swamp cane.

Lower down still are the famous Rembert hills, the favorite resort of the planters of the past as a region in which to establish their homes. These high hills overlook the rich valleys which lie along Beaver Creek. Along the last-named stream are outcroppings of marl beds, which lend additional richness to the soils. All these lands—the black prairie and the brown loam on

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the uplands, as well as the light gray—are valuable and productive. The crops usually produced are corn, cotton, peas, sweet and Irish potatoes, millet, oats and sugar-cane. Corn and cotton thrive about equally well upon the different lands.

Some of the lands lying in the bottoms have been in cultivation fifty years or more, and yet they are seemingly as exhaustless in fertility now as ever.

That there are fine phosphate beds in Marengo there is no doubt. Attention has been called only to the evidence of these deposits. It is conspicuous in the neighborhood of Luther's Store, and prevails across the country in the direction of Black's Bluff, on the Alabama River. Green sand is seen in some considerable abundance in several places, most notably where the Linden and Nanafalia road crosses Double Creek. Also on the Tombigbee between the mouth of Beaver Creek and Nanafalia green sand is found. A surer evidence of the fertility of these Marengo lands could not be had.

The timbers of the county are the several varieties of oak, hickory, poplar, scalybark, ash, hackberry, cedar, sweet gum, red, white, and slippery elm, cottonwood, buckeye, persimmon, and dogwood. In the southern end of the county there are domains of yellow or long-leaf pine in its virgin plentitude. It is superior in every respect. Along the streams are dense brakes of cane, and in the swamps large districts of palmetto.

Transportation is afforded by the Tombigbee River, which forms its western border, and the East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia Railroad.

Steps are being taken to construct dummy lines in different portions of the county. One is in contemplation in the near future between Faunsdale and Linden. All the interior towns and villages have telephonic connection with the Western Union Telegraph Company, either at Faunsdale or Demopolis.

Its chief streams are the Tombigbee and Warrior Rivers, the Chicasaw, Bogue, Dickson's, Double, Beaver, Horse, Turkey, Duck, and Bear Creeks.

Linden, the county-seat, Demopolis, Faunsdale, Dayton, McKinley, Nanafalia, Jefferson, and Spring Hill are the points of

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interest. These have excellent educational and religious advantages.

The point of greatest interest in the county is Demopolis, a town of 2,000 inhabitants, located upon a high bluff of the Tombigbee River. Its commercial advantages are superior by reason of its proximity to fertile sections of the several counties, viz.: Green, Hale and Sumter.

Its transportation advantages are superior, being at the junction of the Tombigbee River with the East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia Railroad. In the surrounding region prevails the finest limestone and in vast abundance. The town supports good schools, churches, and hotels. It has a female institution of merit. Its mineral well, the volume of which is immense, is one of the best in the South, and readily supplies every portion of the town with superior water. Demopolis is an excellent cotton market. It sustains a large cotton-seed oil mill.

Eager to have their lands occupied, the owners offer rare inducements to immigrants. The best lands may be had from $8 to $20 per acre. Lands less fertile sell for much less.

There are 2,400 acres of government land in the county awaiting occupation.

Marengo Female Institute.

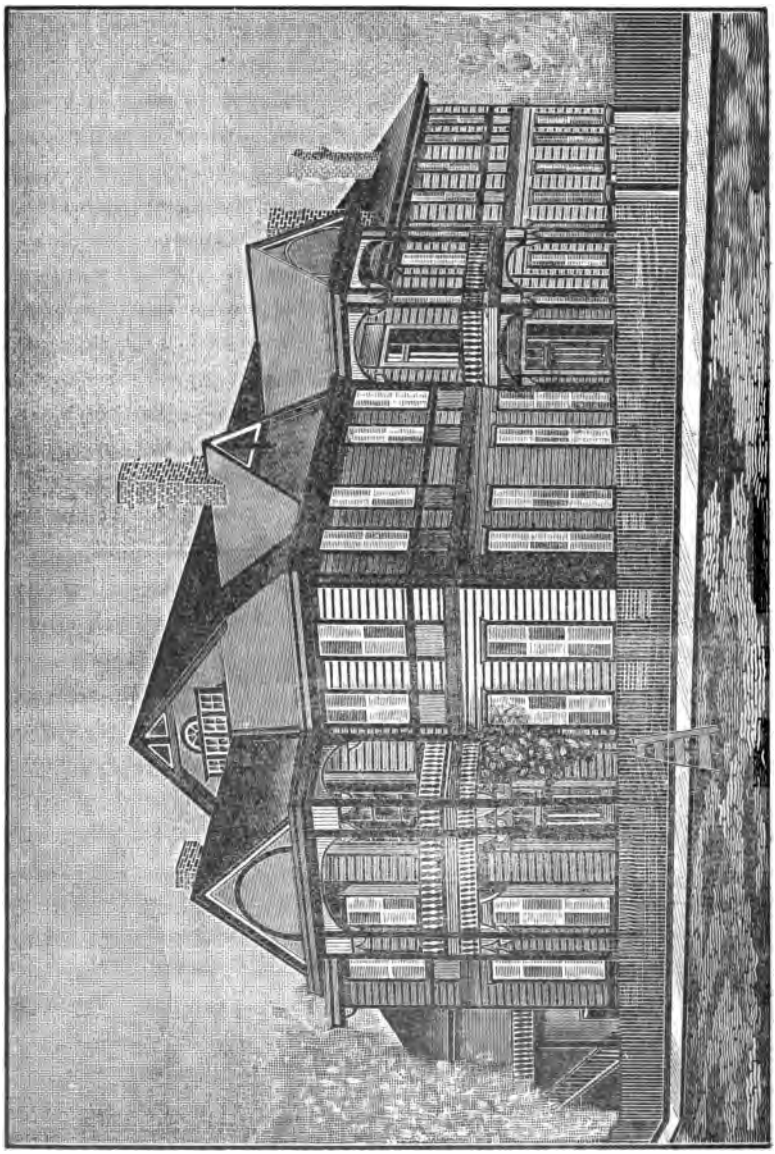
The Marengo Female Institute was established in 1834, under the name of the Marengo Female Academy.

The leaders of the movement were Joseph McDonald, Joseph W. Moore and Francis S. Lyon, all of whom have long since passed away.

The school has had many excellent scholars at its head, among whom were Prof. Sayre, who died at his post in 1853 of yellow fever; Prof. Phillips, Prof. Legare and Geo. F. Miller, Ph. D., (Berlin.) In March, 1886, the buildings were burned, except one brick structure, but were rebuilt in the same year on a larger and better plan. Since then the school has been steadily growing in reputation and in numbers.

For years this was the only female school in this section of the country, and hundreds of the noble women for which the "Black

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MARENGO FEMALE INSTITUTE,

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Belt" is so famous were educated at this institution. Many mothers who now send their daughters here claim this as their *Alma Mater.*

Under the present administration the school has doubled its number of boarders, increased its faculty, added another year to the course of study, and in many ways adjusted itself to the needs of female education of this later day.

The faculty at present is as follows:

J. W. Beeson, A. M., President, Latin, German and Higher Mathematics.

Miss Lizzie M. Alexander, Presiding Teacher (for 1892-3), Sciences, History and Literature.

Miss Ada Beeson, Assistant in Science, History and Literature.

Miss Mollie Clarke, English and Mathematics.

Miss Winnie Smith, English and French.

Miss Maggie Foster, Assistant in English and French.

Music Department—Miss Lizzie C. Caldwell, Directress, Instrumental and Vocal; Theory and Harmony, Miss Maggie Alexander.

Art Department—Miss Annie G. Pront.

Calisthenics—Miss Winnie Smith.

Elocution—Miss Lizzie M. Alexander.

Home Department—Mrs. Alice Borden, Matron.

WILCOX COUNTY.

THIS county derived its name from Lieutenant Joseph M Wilcox. It was created as early as 1819, and has steadily maintained a reputation as one of the leading agricultural counties of the State. It is highly favored, both with respect to the character of its lands and the abundant supplies of water. Most of its lands, and especially its most tillable soils, lie well for cultivation. Its favorable climate, its diverse soils, its varied crops, make it a most desirable home for the man of limited means, as well as for the more extensive planter. Its area embraces 960 square miles.

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Population in 1880, 31,828; population in 1890, 30,816. White, 6,794; colored, 24,022.

Area planted in cotton, 91,597 acres; in corn, 40,053 acres; in oats, 7,011 acres; in sugar-cane, 251 acres; in rice, 14 acres; in tobacco, 15 acres; in sweet potatoes, 1,597 acres.

Cotton Production—32,582 bales.

The general surface of Wilcox is uneven though it has much level land. Most of the land of even surface, whether found in the prairie districts, along the streams, or upon the table lands amid the hills, has been brought into cultivation. In the palmy days of the past there could have been seen, in the most fertile sections of the county, especially upon its prairie and bottom lands, some of the most splendid and extensive plantations of the Far South. There is a variety of soil to be found in different parts of the county, and sometimes a variety in the same section. For instance, along the northern end of Wilcox, there are to be found all the varieties of black and red, with gray or white lands, with an occasional intervention of mulatto soil. All of this land is productive, however. This is a fair index of the diversity of soils prevalent throughout Wilcox. The gray and mulatto uplands are valuable for farming purposes, while the black prairie soils and the rich alluvial bottoms which lie along the large creeks and Alabama River, sometimes embracing leagues of land in the great curves of that stream, are remarkable for their productiveness. Upon these, grows to rank luxuriance, the cotton of Wilcox, the yield of which, under favorable circumstances, is immense.

In portions of the county, notably in the southern part, the lands become thinner, being overlaid with a surface of dark sands. But beneath this sandy surface, there is usually a deep red, or yellowish clay subsoil, which proves an invaluable adjunct to the upper soil in the production of crops. Cotton, corn, oats, sweet and Irish potatoes, millet, sorghum, sugar cane and rice are the principal products of the farm.

In some portions of Wilcox the breeds of stock, especially of mules and horses, are being vastly improved, and this is leading to the cultivation of useful grasses, which flourish with only partial attention.

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The native grasses in summer, and the cane which abounds along the creeks and river at all seasons, furnish herbage for stock throughout the year. Enterprising parties are engaged in every portion of the county in stock raising. Horses and mules are raised with ease and scarcely at no expense. The dairy interest is exciting attention and large numbers of improved strains of cattle have been introduced into the county.

Large quantities of apples, peaches, pears and plums are produced in great abundance every year. All the domestic berries, such as raspberries and strawberries, produce quite satisfactorily, and quantities are annually grown. All the wild fruits known to our southern latitude, grow in the waste places and through the forests of Wilcox.

The range of hills in southern Wilcox are admirably adapted to fruit raising. From the orchards fruit comes to perfection earlier than in any other section of the State. Grapes are easily and abundantly produced.

The timbers of the county are long and short-leaf pine, the different varieties of oak, hickory, ash, elm, poplar, cedar, mulberry, beech, magnolia, sycamore and walnut. Some of the most splendid specimens of timber found in Southern forests can be obtained in Wilcox. Perhaps no county surpasses it in the abundance of its cedar growth. There is also quite a quantity of excellent cypress timber. When this is removed and the land upon which it grows is thoroughly drained, it has been found to equal any other in its capacity of production.

The Alabama River, Pursley, Pine Barren, Cedar Gravel, Bear, Turkey and Chilatchee Creeks, are the chief streams flowing through the county, but like all large streams, they are fed by many smaller ones, which drain different parts of the county. These and others afford a sufficiency of water. The water of the springs and wells is either of the coolest freestone or purest limestone. Green sand marl has been found at different points in Wilcox. Between Coal Bluff, on the Alabama River, and the mouth of Pursley Creek, not a great distance above Gullett's Landing, there are several occurrences of green sand along the banks of the river. These extend to within a short distance of Yellow Bluff, at McNeill's Shoals. Evidences of green sand pre-

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vail near Lower Peach Tree. The productiveness of the lands which are embraced in the great curves of the Alabama, is no doubt largely due to the prevalence of these marls. The presence of green sand is also reported from the neighborhood of Snow Hill. At Coal Bluff, on the Alabama River, are traces of coal.

The places of interest are Camden, a beautiful town of 1,400 people, and the county seat, Snow Hill, Allenton, Pine Apple, and Rehoboth. Most of these places have superior educational facilities. All of them have excellent church organizations.

Camden has long been noted for the superiority of its social advantages. It is a center of controlling influence in that section of the State in which it is located. Besides an excellent male High School, Camden has a Female Institute, which has long been established. Both at Snow Hill and Pine Apple are schools of superior grade. An excellent school is also sustained at Oak Hill. Wilcox is not excelled, perhaps, by any other county in Alabama, in educational institutions of superior order.

Facilities for religious worship also abound throughout the county. There are many local industries, such as ginneries, grist and saw mills, and the number of these are annually increasing. For transportation, the people of the eastern end of the county rely mainly upon the Pensacola & Selma Railroad, which at present extends from Selma to Pine Apple. The Montgomery, Hayneville & Camden Railroad, which is now in course of construction and will soon be in operation, is another important thoroughfare.

The Mobile & Birmingham Railroad, which has just been completed, traverses the western portion of the county. This has awakened great interest, as it furnishes this fertile section with an outlet to New Orleans and other Gulf ports. It also brings it into connection with the great railway systems at Selma, Montgomery and Birmingham. The Camden, Hayneville & Montgomery Railroad will soon be in operation.

The Alabama River is an important channel of commerce to a large section of Wilcox county. This is regarded as one of the finest waterways in the South, and in more prosperous days sup-

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ported some of the most magnificent steamers found upon American rivers.

A telephonic line links together Camden and Snow Hill, where it connects with the Western Union Telegraph Company. Another line has been constructed from Camden via Clanton, Prairie Bluff to Catherine, on the Mobile & Birmingham Railroad. The Vicksburg & Brunswick Railroad is projected through Wilcox, and is expected to pass the town of Camden.

Lands may be purchased in the county at prices ranging from $2 to $25, depending, of course, upon the locality and the fertility —the average price being from $3 to $5 per acre.

So eager are the people to have thrifty and energetic settlers locate in their midst, that they are willing to offer extraordinary inducements in the sale of lands and homes.

There are 1,000 acres of government land in Wilcox still untaken.

Detailed information concerning the county will be cheerfully furnished by Hon. Sol. D. Bloch, Camden, Ala.

DALLAS COUNTY.

THIS county was formed in 1818, and named after Mr. Alexander J. Dallas, of Pennsylvania. Lying in the very heart of the great Cotton Belt, and enjoying to the fullest all the favorable conditions belonging to this famous section, Dallas stands in the van of the counties belonging to the great commonwealth of Alabama.

It has an area of 980 square miles.

Population in 1880, 48,433; population in 1890, 49,350. White, 8,016; colored, 41,334.

Area planted in cotton, 135,048 acres; in corn, 45,373 acres; in oats, 6,975 acres; in wheat, 1 acres; in rye, 40 acres; in tobacco, 2 acres.

Cotton prodaction—42,819 bales.

The surface of Dallas county is undulating. In the northeast-

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ern corner of the county is found prevailing pine lands, which are chiefly devoted to the lumber interest. This region is specially noted for its health, its clear flowing streams and its excellent pine timber. As it is becoming more populous it is being more and more devoted to agricultural pursuits. Cotton and corn are found to do well in that section. North Dallas is elevated, and is well adapted to farming and stock-raising. The soils upon the table lands are red and gray. Passing the hill country, toward the center, we reach the sandy lands, which prevail for a considerable distance, broken only by the streams which traverse it in several directions. In the western portion of the county is the famous canebrake region, which, for favorableness of surface and productiveness of soil, can not be excelled. Lower down, upon the western border, is found variable soils, and a variety of forest growth and field vegetation.

The lands along the Alabama, after that river emerges from the sand region, in which Selma is located, are famous for their fertility. Upon the terraces, which exist after the river bottoms are passed, the lands are level and susceptible of a high degree of cultivation.

In no portion of the country are there found barren soils. Even in the sandy regions are produced the finest vegetables and fruits. The value of its soils will be appreciated when it is stated that Dallas produces more cotton than any other county in the State. The extensive bottoms which skirt the Alabama River, and the large creeks which penetrate the county, as well as the canebrake regions and the loamy uplands, are almost altogether devoted to cotton. Corn, oats and sweet potatoes are also extensively produced.

Of late years much attention is being given to the production of hay. Vast hay farms are to be found in the most fertile portions of the county. Consequent upon this is the attention bestowed upon stock. In some instances cotton has been wholly abandoned, and productive farms are devoted to stock. It is proving so lucrative that there are annual accessions to the ranks of stock-raisers. These stiff, limey soils are admirably suited to the production of grasses and clovers.

The growth of the forests is pine (yellow and short-leaf), the

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different oaks, chestnut, hickory, gums, beech, ash and cedar. Fruits thrive moderately well, such as apples, peaches and pears. Plums do remarkably well, and so do grapes, the domestic berries and watermelons.

The principal streams are the Alabama and Cahaba Rivers, Big Mulberry, Beech, Bogue Chitta, Big Swamp, Mush and Cedar Creeks. Artesian wells abound in different parts of Dallas, affording an undiminished supply of water.

The county is highly favored in its numerous lines of transportation, being penetrated by the Selma & Pensacola, Mobile & Birmingham, the Selma & New Orleans, East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia, Western of Alabama, Cincinnati, Selma, & Mobile Railroads, and the Alabama River. Commercial outlets are thus afforded to every point of the compass. The Chicago & Pensacola, Grand Trunk and the Atlanta & Atlantic Railroads are new lines now in contemplation. One of the purposes of their construction is to bring Selma into connection with the great outlying mineral regions.

SELMA.

Selma is the fourth in size of the cities of Alabama. It has a population of about 12,000. For many years it has been noted for its wealth, refinement and morals. It reposes upon the high banks of the Alabama River and commands a magnificent view for many miles. One of the notable features of the city is the number of its artesian wells. It has more than one hundred within its limits, many of which possess curative properties. The city is in annual receipt of from 75,000 to 100,000 bales of cotton. Its industries embrace foundries, cotton mills, cotton seed oil and cake mills, broom factory, sash, door and blind manufactory, fertilizer and ice factories, besides minor industries.

Philip Armour has an immense establishment here for the distribution of meats. The city is lighted by gas and electricity. It is penetrated by a dummy line that reaches all the business places and hotels. Selma has a public school system second to that of no other Southern city. It has nice churches for the white population and as many for the colored. The city is favored with a magnificent iron drawbridge, which spans the

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Alabama River upon the South. Besides Selma there are other points of interest, among which may be named, Orrville, Summerfield, Pleasant Hill and Richmond. All these places support good schools. An excellent public school system prevails throughout the county.

Those wishing to purchase lands in one of the most favored and fertile regions of Alabama may secure them in Dallas county for prices ranging from $3 to $25 per acre. Numerous schemes are on foot to induce capital and immigration to the county. The kindest attention will be shown those who wish to secure homes.

Advantages will be found in the fertility of the soils, the cheapness of lands, the abundance of timber, the ease of transportation, and the law-abiding disposition of the people.

More productive lands cannot be found in the State than in this county, and perhaps no other affords greater advantages in the price of lands. It is in the heart of the great Cotton Belt.

Respecting its chief city, Selma, there is no point in Alabama more highly favored in location for the establishment of manufactories. From this point to the waters of the Gulf there is deep water throughout the year. Connected with the great mineral fields above, and Selma would become an important shipping point of the valuable ores of Alabama to the port of Mobile.

The geographical location of Dallas county is such as to favor the prediction that it will prove one of the most active centers of industry in the State.

The public lands of the county have all been taken.

PERRY COUNTY.

PERRY was created in 1819 and named in honor of Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry, of the United States Navy. Here, as throughout this portion of the Great Black Belt, are all the evidences of bounty in the deep, rich soil, the increasing flow of streams, the green-clad hills and forests of towering timber. Under a perfect system of labor, these black soils of Perry county would yield astonishingly. For many years in cul-

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tivation, these fruitful lands never refuse to bring forth abundantly where the planter is diligent in sowing and reaping. The county has an area of 790 square miles.

Population in 1880, 30,741; population in 1890, 29,332. White, 6,812; colored, 22,520.

Area planted in cotton, 79,739 acres; in corn, 41,858 acres; in oats, 6,920 acres; in wheat, 16 acres; in rye, 14 acres; in tobacco, 1 acre.

Cotton production—24,873 bales.

The northern end of the county is of an uneven surface. The central and southern portions are level. In the northern portion there are brown loam uplands; in the southern, there is the genuine prairie soil. These are the only two characteristics attaching to the lands of the county. Both these soils possess very great inherent fertility. Upon the highest of the hill lands in north Perry there is a prevalence of sand, in which grows chiefly the yellow or long-leaf pine. Descending to the base of these hills, or rather to the uplands, we find, as was said above, a brown loam soil. Beneath this fertile surface there is a red loam subsoil, said to be twenty or twenty-five feet thick. The prairies proper, which embrace the central and southern portions of Perry, are broken here and there by sandy elevations, upon which are usually located the towns and settlements of the county. These knolls are admirably suited for the location of homes, as they place one beyond the reach of prairie mud, and at the same time furnish him with an abundant supply of excellent water. Corn and cotton are the chief crops, and their yield is oftentimes amazing.

Like many in the adjoining counties, the farmers of Perry are turning their attention to the remunerative pursuit of raising stock. Excellent stock farms can now be seen in the county, superior grasses are being cultivated, and the profits annually realized are most gratifying. These lands cannot be surpassed for purposes of stock raising.

Many delicious fruits are grown in the county. Peaches, pears, figs, and grapes, together with strawberries and watermelons, are the principal fruits produced. The timbers of the county are the usual upland oaks, hickory, short and long-leaf or yellow pine.

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Besides many smaller streams, there are the Cahaba river, and the Washington, Legreon, Blue Cat, Brush, Belcher's Five Mile, Big, and Bogue Chitta Creeks in Perry. A bounteous supply of water is furnished from the numerous and copious wells which are found in every portion of the county.

Marion, the county-seat, with a population of near 3,000, Uniontown, and Hamburg are the points of interest. Marion has been long and justly famous for her institutions of learning. The Marion Military Institute is located here. Another magnificent school is the Judson Female Institute. The latter school is operated under the auspices of the Baptist denomination of the State. The Marion Seminary, another college for female education and an institution of merit, is located in this highly-favored town. The society of the place is unexcelled in the South, and the healthfulness of the location good. The Methodist, Presbyterian, Baptist, and other denominations sustain excellent churches. Near Uniontown is one of the Agricultural Experimental stations of the State, in successful operation. Railroad facilities are enjoyed through the lines of the Cincinnati, Selma and Mobile, and the East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia systems.

But the most important highway of transportation will be the Mobile & Birmingham Railroad, which is now being built from Mobile to Birmingham, and other points North. This road will pierce the center both of the most productive agricultural and mineral sections of our State.

The removal of the natural obstructions from the Cahaba River will also afford numerous advantages to this section.

Immigrants could now purchase lands in Perry county upon the most favorable terms, not exceeding in price $5 or $15 per acre. Like the adjacent counties, there is a prevalence of marl in different portions of Perry. The discovery of these deposits has had a tendency to increase the valuation of lands. It is believed that these beds are sufficiently thick to encourage their development for commercial purposes. Whether this be true or not, there is no doubt that they will be of immense profit to the lands of the county. Traces of kaolin and other minerals have been discovered. The people of Perry county would extend a most cordial welcome to thrifty immigrants. In the county are

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520 acres of public or government land awaiting occupation by settlers.

AUTAUGA COUNTY.

AUTAUGA county was created in 1818, and named from the Indian word *autaugi*, signifying a dumpling, meaning plenty. This is quite as suggestive to-day as it was when the Indian rudely cultivated his patches about his wigwam, realizing plenty from the generous soil in which this region abounds. From the first settlement of the county, in the earliest days of the present century, to this time, many of the best soils of Autauga have been subjected to the most exhaustive means of cultivation, and yet they seem as fruitful to-day as at any time in the past. Not only has Autauga held her place amid the most progressive agricultural counties, but it was one of the pioneer counties of the State in the manufactures.

The county has an area of 660 square miles.

Population in 1880, 13,108; population in 1890, 13,330. White, 4,796; colored, 8,534.

Area planted in cotton, 34,458 acres; in corn, 19,463; in oats, 1,987 acres; in wheat, 15 acres; in rye, 31 acres; in tobacco, 1 acre.

Cotton Production—10,431 bales.

The surface of Autauga is undulating. In the northern portion there is a pine district, which is broken into hills and valleys. The forests are thronged almost altogether by the towering yellow pine, in the midst of which is slightly interspersed a stunted growth of black-jack oaks. The commercial value of this yellow pine is enormous, and will, one day, be a source of great revenue to the county. The lands of this region are thickly overspread with luxuriant herbage, embracing various wild grasses, clovers and other plants, which afford superior pasturage. The deep subsoil of clay makes this a region favorable to the growth of fruits. The lands which skirt the streams in this portion of Autauga are good farming lands. Further down in the county the lands increase in their fertility, and one finds the farms multiply-

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ing the further South he goes. Sandy surface soil is still a predominating feature, but many of the lands lie well and are favorable to cultivation, both because they are level and because they are easily tilled. In this portion are found hammock lands, which lie along the streams. The table-lands are valuable for farming because of their deep clay foundation. In the southern portion of Autauga the lands grow more prolific, and in some places exceedingly fertile. Here are found what are called second-bottom or river-hammock lands. Here again is found a district of that fertile land which follows the deep rolling Alabama in its windings to the sea. The famous river forms the southern boundary of the county, and its rich alluvial bottoms yield splendid harvests. The lime lands in the southwestern part of the county are superior for the production of cotton. Thus it will be seen that the soils of Autauga range from the richest alluvial to those found upon the surface of the pine hills, including the red or brown loam table-lands of the county. The soils favor a diversified field industry, and, perhaps, no county furnishes a more thrifty and contented population than does Autauga. They produce for commerce and home consumption cotton, corn, oats, wheat, rye, rice, potatoes, sorghum and sugar-cane. Many of these were at first planted only cautiously and as experiments, but they are productive and contribute so much to the happiness and welfare of the people that they are rapidly becoming staples. All the garden and orchard products that flourish in southern soil are easily produced in this county. Peaches, apples, plums, pears, grapes, figs and pomegranates are ordinary luxuries. Principal among its timbers are white and chestnut oak, shell-bark hickory, ash, poplar, sweet gum, beech, maple, cedar, cypress, and vast districts of pine.

The water supply of the county is abundant, there being many streams, springs, and wells in every part of its territory. The main streams are the Alabama River, Big and Little Mulberry, Swift, Beaver, Nolan's Whitewater, Bear, and Autauga Creeks. Flowing through such lands as have been described above, these streams enhance their value for the production of stock. This industry is assuming greater prominence every year. Wool growing is fast resolving itself into one of the industries of the county.

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These swift and deep streams are favorable also to the manufacturers. For many miles along Autauga Creek there are the most favorable locations for manufactories. This is true of other streams of the county. Appreciating this fact, Daniel Pratt, one of the pioneer manufacturers of the South, built a cotton mill upon one of the streams of the county as early as 1846. This has been followed by others, and to-day there are the following manufacturing interests in different parts of Autauga: Prattville Mills, Autaugaville Factory, Planters' Factory, and Lehman Mills. The Alabama River flows along its southern border, the East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia Railroad also penetrates it in the west. and the Louisville & Nashville railroad cuts across the northeastern portion of the county; and these furnish the means of transportation. With an increase of such facilities, the county is in position to take a long stride forward. Principal among the thrifty little towns that dot the county over may be mentioned Prattville, the county-seat, with a population of 1,400, Autaugaville, Kingston and Mulberry. These are thrifty centers and have good educational and church advantages. Common schools are sustained throughout the county.

Lands may be purchased at as low figures as $1.60 per acre; or, in highly favored localities, it will cost from $8 to $15 per acre. Since the recent discovery of marl deposits, the lands are more highly prized. These marls have not as yet been developed, but should they prove of no commercial value, they will be of great practical advantage in the enrichment of the surface soils. Immigrants would meet every encouragement in seeking homes in Autauga county.

There are 640 acres of government land to be had in the county.

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LOWNDES COUNTY.

ESTABLISHED in 1830, this county was named in honor of Hon. William Lowndes, of South Carolina. It has long been noted for productiveness of its lands, and is regarded one of the best agricultural districts in the South. Prior to the war the planters of Lowndes made immense fortunes from farming upon its fertile cotton fields. Though in use many years, the lands remain unimpaired in their productiveness. The county needs only the hands of system and diligence to direct and urge the industries suited to the capabilities of its soils to place it alongside the most advanced sections of our planting interests. Like all other localities of the famous Cotton Belt, Lowndes county has shared in the shrinkage of the valuation of lands. This is mainly due to the destruction of an organized labor system consequent upon the emancipation of the slaves. Its lands are well adapted to the employment of improved implements of labor. The area of the county is 740 square miles.

Population in 1880, 31,176; population in 1890, 31,550. White, 4,563; colored, 26,987.

Area planted in cotton, 113,341 acres; in corn, 51,080 acres; in oats, 4,591 acres.

Cotton Production—40,430 bales.

The surface of Lowndes is rolling. The whole of the county lies within the prairie belt, still there is a fair proportion of upland soils. Along the table-lands are found sandy loam soils; in the extensive bottoms which prevail along the river and the numerous streams are found dark loam soils, while upon the prairies proper and the flanks of the lime-hills exist the soils which have a great admixture of lime. While the prevailing surface of Lowndes is rolling, there are many precipitous hills in the southern portion. The presence of lime in the clay makes the roads mirey during the wet seasons. This feature, connected with that extreme southwestern portion, has won it the local name of "Little Texas." But this constitutes but a fractional part of this magnificent agricultural region. A feature belonging largely

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to the first bottom soils is that they are sandy but derive vast benefits from the underlying formations of lime. Here, as elsewhere in the prairie region, there are occasional interventions of sandy knolls, which furnish locations for houses and settlements, and also an abundance of good water.

The main crops grown in Lowndes are cotton, corn, oats, sweet and Irish potatoes, millet and sugar-cane. The black lands are usually devoted to the production of corn, while the sandy lands are employed for raising cotton; but the red lands produce both equally well. Many of these lands are well adapted to pasturage purposes. Numerous grasses flourish, some of which are indigenous and others imported. These, together with the varieties of clover and the dense brakes of cane, which prevail along the streams and in the marshy low lands make this one of the most desirable sections for stock-raising. This consideration is enhanced by the fact that the winters in this latitude are brief and mild, and stock does not have to be so tenderly cared for during the cold season as in sections further north. Pintlala, Big Swamp, Cedar, and Dry Creeks, with numerous tributaries, flow across the county. It is along these streams that much of the richest land of the county is found.

Scattered throughout Lowndes are broad belts of valuable timber, comprising several varieties of oak, hickory, long and short-leaf pine, elm, ash, poplar, walnut, sycamore, gum, beech, cedar, mulberry, and chestnut. Points of interest are Hayneville, the county-seat, with a population of several hundred; Lowndesboro, Benton, Fort Deposit, and Letohatchie. Good schools are found in almost all the centers of population, while a common school system provides educational advantages for all classes.

Transportation is afforded by the Louisville & Nashville Railroad, the Montgomery & Selma Railroad, and the Alabama River.

A new line is surveyed through the county from Montgomery to Camden. It is expected to penetrate the heart of the county, touching at Hayneville.

Lands may be purchased for from $3 to $20 per acre.

Desiring the develowment of the inherent resources of the

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county, the people are quite favorable to immigration, and will offer rare bargains to those desiring superior farming lands.

There are no government lands in the county.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY.

THIS county was organized as far back as 1816, and named in honor of Major Lemuel P. Montgomery, of Virginia. It is one of the foremost in the Southern States in the production of such staples as cotton and corn. Located in the great agricultural belt, and enjoying numerous natural facilities of the highest order, its prosperity through a long series of years has been uninterrupted. Montgomery, the county-seat, is noted as being also the capitol of the State since 1846, and as being the first capitol of the seceding States in 1861.

The county has an area of 740 square miles.

Population in 1880, 52,356; population in 1890, 56,172. White, 14,682; colored, 41,490.

Area planted in cotton, 122,526 acres; in corn, 49,960 acres; in oats, 5,608 acres; in rye, 29 acres; in tobacco, 5 acres.

Cotton Production—45,860 bales.

The favorable location of this county on the Alabama River, which affords navigation to the Gulf of Mexico, and the great fertility of its soil, at an early period attracted the attention of enterprising capitalists from all sections, North and South, and its lands were rapidly taken up as they were thrown upon the market by the United States government. The pioneer settlers prospered in all the branches of business open to them. Especially was this so with the agriculturists. The rich river bottoms, skirted by fertile red uplands, studded with large hickories, red oaks, poplars, etc., often clad to their very tops by clinging grape vines, merging into broad prairies of great fertility, on which the wild grasses often grow from six to seven feet in height, furnishing food for numerous herds of cattle—it was indeed a land flowing with milk and honey. The errors and indifference growing out of the ease

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and luxury of its ever prosperous people, have changed this natural fertility and scenery to one less fascinating to the new comers. But "there is life in the old land yet," and there is offered a more real and brighter promise to the enterprising and thoughtful man than ever before.

The hardships and privations attending the first settlers—the clearing away of the dense forests—the difficulty of procuring corn for bread, often having to transport it many miles on horseback through forests infested with hostile Indians, and grinding the same by hand, the encountering of sickness incident to new countries, and many other dangers and discomforts, have passed away, and the new-comer now meets an orderly, law-abiding people, enjoying all the social comforts that society can offer, and all the conveniences to facilitate trade and travel.

The actual cost of reducing lands to their present state of cultivation would not fall short of twenty dollars per acre in addition to the original cost of the land, which, in many instances, was from three to four times the present price, while they can now be purchased at from $3 to $20 per acre at any portion of the county not contiguous to the city. Skill and industry will, at less cost than was required to reduce them to cultivation, restore these lands to more than their original fertility, as has been fully demonstrated in numerous instances. The 400 to 500 square miles of prairie soil in the county is underlaid at depths practicable for utilization, with a strata of bones and shells of marine animals, containing lime, potash, phosphorus, and, in fact, all the mineral ingredients of plant food. The other requisites for successful fertilization can be obtained from stock pens, cotton seed, and by turning under cow peas or other green crops.

There is very little waste land in the county.

The money value of its agricultural products for the year 1860 exceeded that of any county in Illinois or Indiana, but the besom of destruction and demoralization incident to all wars, swept over it, and the census of 1870 shows that the value of the same products was only 32 per cent. of that of the previous decade, and real estate was depreciated in a still greater ratio. The production has since 1870 about doubled, and the prices of lands enhanced in a like degree.

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All the crops of the North can be more profitably produced here, and still more profitable crops raised that can only be brought to maturity in hot houses in that laitude. At least two-thirds of the tillable land of the county are devoted to the production of cotton.

Cotton, corn, wheat, rye, oats, barley, sugar-cane, tobacco, indigo, field peas, and the grasses, all grow as profitable field crops. The cabbage, melons of all sorts, squash, cucumber, tomato, okra, Irish and sweet potato, ground peas, English peas, beans, onions, celery, asparagus, and all varieties of garden truck are easily and profitably raised. The peach, pear, apple, quince, fig, plum, nectarine, pomegranate, apricot, grape, and the great variety of berries, some of which are indigenous to this section, all grow to perfection and are saleable at good prices.

On a hill about ten miles from the capitol, sixty-three annual crops of fruit are said to have been raised, with but little attention and labor, without a single failure. The writer saw, a few days ago, about five bushels of very small, inferior pears delivered to a purchaser who paid two dollars and a half per bushel for them, and yet the people give these more profitable crops but little attention. If 100 pear trees were well cultivated, they would yield from five to ten bushels each, or from $1,250 to $2,500 per annum for the 100 trees, and so with many other kinds of fruits. In from two to three years the peach, fig and grape will bear fruit, and their cultivation would open a certain road to fortune.

The mortality of the county, including the city of Montgomery, is about 12 per 1,000 only.

The winters are so mild that it is not necessary to house stock, and the laborer can pursue his field operations throughout the year. The rains are abundant for the luxuriant growth of crops, and no devastating storm has ever visited the county. The highest speed attained by the wind during the existence of the weather bureau in the city of Montgomery, was 48 miles per hour, and then only of a few minutes duration. The average speed for each year varies from four to six miles per hour. In the hottest days of summer the thermometer never records so high a temperature as is experienced at the North, and the heat is tempered by cooling breezes from the Gulf of Mexico.

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The city of Montgomery is the capitol of the county and State and is situated on the Alabama River, a few miles below the junction of the Coosa and Tallapoosa Rivers, the latter forming the northern boundary of the county. The junction of these two rivers forms the Alabama, which is navigable for steamboats all the year round. Montgomery has a population of 30,000, showing an increase of 100 per cent. in the last ten years, with a prospect of continuing this rate of improvement in the future.

THE CITY OF MONTGOMERY.

Montgomery, the capital of Alabama, is a beautiful and well-equipped city of thirty thousand inhabitants. It has grown to its present proportions mainly from its trade with the farmers and lumbermen of Central, Eastern and Southern Alabama, though its merchants sell many goods in Southeast Georgia and West Florida. Its manufactures are principally of recent growth, and their territory is much wider.

The purpose of this article has nothing to do with the historical wealth of the town. Fortunately in this year 1893, the thoughts of her people are bent on the present and the future. The best service, then, which printer's ink can do for her, is to enable the great mass of people, North and South, who are seeking homes and investments in the fast developing State of Alabama, to know what manner of city Montgomery is, what her resources and advantages are, and what prospect stretches before her. In the first place then,

MONTGOMERY

is the largest and wealthiest city in the agricultural district of Alabama.

Her population is 30,000.

HER DEATH RATE

varies from 8 to 12 per thousand per annum. Indeed so remarkable is the health of the city, that life insurance companies long ago exempted her from the specially high premium in force for

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this latitude and put her in the same category with the most favored localities in the North. The progressive administration of her present mayor, is putting in a complete system of sanitary sewerage, embodying all the improvements hitherto made in the well-known system of the famous Waring.

The health of Montgomery is largely due to her

SUPERB SITE,

the city being situated on an amphitheatre of hills of easy grade, the basin of which is a nearly level space large enough for the business portion of a town twice its size. The residence begin at the edges of the basin and stretch back over the hills, covering a section of the level and broken area beyond their top. All face the Alabama River, the bluff being so high as to prevent overflowing and exempt the city from all malarial influences. Thus the city is not only well drained in every part, but the beauty of the place is second to none in the country.

THE CAPITOL BUILDING,

the most prominent object in Montgomery, is on an eminence in the eastern part of the city, which overlooks the town and the surrounding country. From the upper stories of the building, the landscape unfolded to the view embraces the surrounding country, hills and river and level plains, for a distance of twenty miles.

Montgomery's equipment as a city includes every convenience and luxury known to the people of New York.

HER CITY BUILDING,

is a handsome three story brick structure with market house, and a separate building for police headquarters and city jail adjoining. The offices, and especially the council chamber, are fitted in a style that exceeds anything south of Baltimore. After seeing the outfit of the city government, including the prison, Charles Dudley Warner, the distinguished philanthropist and writer, said they were the best he had seen in the South, and betokened an order and a system "a humanity" that one finds only in a few of the oldest and most advanced towns of his own New England.

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THE POST OFFICE,

is an elegant brick structure recently built by the United States Government. It contains the offices and rooms of the United States Courts, Internal Revenue Bureau, Public Land Department, etc.

Montgomery is a

WELL LIGHTED

city, having gas and electricity, both of which are used for lighting the streets and public squares, as well as the houses. A cluster of four electric lights on the tower of the City Building, and another on the dome of the Capitol, are visible at night from a distance of twenty miles around.

In the matter of local transit Montgomery has little more to wish for. She is a compactly built city, and fifteen miles of

ELECTRIC STREET RAILWAY,

connect every part of the town with the square in the centre, where all the lines meet. All the cars are operated by electric motors, driven by a current sent through overhead wires from a central station. A speed of six miles an hour is attained and the cost of operating is one fifth that of horse power. The system is that of Mr. Van Depoele, of Chicago.

OF THEATRES,

we have two, both modern in their construction and arrangement. Montgomery is on the great Southern circuit, and during the season the best attractions in the country are seen on our boards.

THE HOTELS,

of the city are seven in number. The leading hotels are the Exchange and Windsor, the others being principally lodging houses. The accommodations are as good as can be found anywhere, and the capacity equal to every demand that has ever been made upon them.

THE CHURCHES,

are nine in number, including the Jewish Synagogue. These are Methodist, Baptist, Presbyterians, Catholics and Episcopal. Besides the colored people have a dozen nice houses of worship.

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SCHOOLS.

In the matter of schools Montgomery has much to boast, much to be desired. In this industrial age no city can rest content without institutions where technical or industrial training is in reach of all her children. This addition to our school system will not be long in coming, but barring this need our school facilities are ample. A graded system of public schools afford free education to all children between the age of seven and twenty-one. The amount expended each year is about $30,000, some of it from the general State fund and some from special local taxation.

There are five large and commodious school buildings, three for white and two for colored pupils. Two of the white school houses are of brick, one of them being a model structure erected last year at a cost of $30,000. One of the colored schools is also of brick, built years ago for a college.

Besides the public schools, the Hamner Hall, a college for girls, is an old and well conducted institution under the charge of Miss Everhart, a most accomplished lady. Besides, a number of private schools, primary and classical, give opportunities to those who are able to pay for a more careful training than is afforded by the great public school system. McCarthy's Business College teaches the art of book-keeping to boys and girls, keeping open both day and night.

Some cities may be as well supplied with water as Montgomery, but none better. A complete system of works, owned by the Capital City Water Company, and built a few years ago, afford 5,000,000 gallons per day of artesian water. The wells are in the city limits and are about 700 feet deep. This water is not only admirable for all manufacturing purposes, but needs nothing to make it the best drinking water. All the people use it for drinking purposes, drawn directly from the faucets in their houses. Over thirty miles of mains carry the water to every part of the city. The natural pressure from the stand pipe throws a stream over the highest buildings in the city, and on every business house a half dozen streams can be concentrated from the well

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arranged system of fire-plugs, thus affording all the protection from fire that the utmost plentitude of water can insure.

The prices are ten per cent. below the average of water in the cities of the country which are supplied by water companies. On her pure, wholesome, abundant water Montgomery makes a special and peculiar claim as to something rare and of priceless value.

TRADE.

The total volume of the trade of Montgomery is about $30,000,000 annually. It extends over a large area, embracing all the country in Alabama from the Tennessee Valley to the Gulf, and portions of Georgia and Florida. The principal item of her trade is in cotton, of which the past year she received about 100,000 bales. He receipts in good crop years go as high as 140,000 bales.

The next largest item is her grocery trade, in which she has invested over $1,500,000. The annual sales of her grocery merchants are nearly $7,000,000.

The next largest item is her dry goods trade, amounting to nearly $3,000,000 annually.

The tonnage of the goods delivered in Montgomery in a single year by the Louisville & Nashville Railroad is over 200,000; that of the other roads and the river carrying the total tonnage to about 300,000.

The total tonnage of freight furnished by Montgomery to the boats and railroads, and received from them, is slightly in excess of 500,000 tons.

MANUFACTURERS.

Montgomery's principal growth in the past few years has been in the line of manufacturing. She is far from being the distinctively commercial city that she was in the recent past, more than one-fourth of her population now deriving its support from creative industry. She has $2,000,000 invested in factories of various kinds. Except some minor industries the following is a list:

One cotton mill.

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Three cotton seed oil mills.
One flouring mill.
One oil refinery.
One cracker factory.
Three grist mills.
Five general wood working mills, including in their products sash, doors, blinds, etc.
Six carriage and wagon factories, most of them small, but all turning out vehicles complete, and one making nearly all the large wagons used by the Southern Express Company.
Six brick and tile works.
One boiler works.
Three foundries and machine shops.
One candy factory.
Two ice factories.
One soap factory.
One fertilizer factory.
Two railroad car shops,
One cigar factory.
One furniture factory.
One paper box factory.
One sausage factory.
One vinegar factory.
One alcohol distillery.
One iron furnace.
Four cotton ginneries.
One brewery.

The whole number is fifty, and there are twenty-five different varieties. The manufacturing spirit of Montgomery is thus developing along the line of numerous small industries, giving employment to all classes of labor.

Perhaps to the above list should be added the two enormous cotton compresses, which during the cotton season are kept going night and day.

As a cotton market Montgomery is fully equipped, having

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SEVEN WAREHOUSES,

all of which are brick, and with a total storage capacity under shelter of 73,500 bales. The warehouses charge 50 cents a bale storage.

The total cost of marketing a bale of cotton in Montgomery, if sold on the streets, is nothing.

If stored in a warehouse and sold by a commission merchant, the cost is $1 per bale.

The total amount of expense left in Montgomery by a bale of cotton, including warehouse charges, commission, weighing and compressing is $1.85 per bale.

RAILROADS.

Montgomery has six railroads, or rather three roads with lines running out in six directions. She is on the main line of the great Louisville & Nashville, which connects her with the mineral and timber districts on the North, and gives her a direct line to the great markets of Louisville, Cincinnati and St. Louis; and also directly connects her with the Gulf at three points, Mobile, New Orleans and Pensacola.

The Georgia Central system has lines running in from three directions, the Montgomery & Eufaula running up from the southeast, the Western running from Atlanta and passing on to Selma and a junction with the Queen & Crescent route in West Alabama.

The Alabama Midland brings Montgomery into relations with the newly developed region of Southeast Alabama and Florida.

These roads give her through sleepers to Washington and New York, to Cincinnati via Louisville, and to New Orleans, and of course to all intermediate points. They give her connection with the great markets of the country and the lowest freight rates, and in addition give her good command of the territory from which she draws her cotton and in which she sells her goods.

RIVER.

Montgomery is on the Alabama River, navigable for sixty miles above, and for over 400 below. It connects her all the year round

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with Mobile, the great seaport of Alabama. On this river ply three steamers a week, and in the busy season four. The merchants of Montgomery have a Trade Company, which operates a line of boats in their special interest. It operates in connection with the New York & Mobile Steamship Line, by which goods are brought from New York, on through bills of lading.

It also gives through bills of lading on cotton to New York and Liverpool via Mobile.

These rates by water are of course below those which the railroads give to an interior point not on a navigable river, and serve not only to bring goods from the East to Montgomery, at a cost less than other inland cities can get them by rail, but have brought the railroad rate fourteen per cent. below that of her rivals which depend on railroads alone.

Montgomery comes under the exception to the long and short haul clause of the inter-State commerce act.

PARKS.

Adjoining the city limits on the east is the extensive park of Highland Park Company. It is connected with the heart of the city by two lines of electric street railway, the time being about twenty minutes. The park is an extensive oak woods of sixty acres and a beautiful pine grove of about thirty acres. In the midst of the oak grove is a nice pavillion, and near by is the beginning of a zoological garden already containing a number of rare and curious animals. The park is lighted by electricity supplied from the company's own plant. Swings, lawn tennis and other simple amusements are provided. The Capital City Water Company furnish water.

Riverside Park is on the opposite extreme of the city, and is the property of the Montgomery Land and Improvement Company, which is building a manufacturing suburb. To make it more attractive as a place of residence and also a resort for the town, about seventy-five acres have been reserved for park purposes.

Montgomery counts as no small part of her attractions the grounds and buildings of the State Fair, held by the State Agricultural Society.

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The city has filled a long felt want in building an infirmary, where the sick and destitute are attended free of cost. The best medical attention is bestowed, and only experienced nurses are employed. It is maintained by the contributions from the citizens.

Generally speaking, many things can be said about the attractiveness of Montgomery, and what she has to offer in a social way. But the above outline of her institutions, her facilities and equipment as a city shows that she is a completely developed city, and is prepared to give a home with all modern conveniences, in a town with all modern appliances, to whomsoever will come. It goes without the saying that she has telegraph and telephone facilities, a fine volunteer fire department, express offices, etc.

ELMORE COUNTY.

ELMORE county was formed in 1866, and named for Gen. John A. Elmore. The historic Tallapoosa, flowing down from the north, makes a great bend and thus forms two sides of the county. Its resources are varied, and its facilities for manufacturing are unsurpassed, if, indeed, they are not unequaled by any other county in Alabama. It embraces 630 square miles.

Population in 1880, 17,502; population in 1890, 21,732. White, 11,443; colored, 10,289.

Area planted in cotton, 42,365 acres; in corn, 25 862 acres; in oats, 8,148 acres; in wheat, 764 acres; in rye, 25 acres; in tobacco, 1 acre.

Cotton Production—16,871 bales.

The surface of this county is generally rolling. The lands vary in appearance and in the merit of their soils. The gray lands have the predominancy in the county, and vary with the different localities. On the Coosa River, above Wetumpka, there are found narrow basins of good land, but out from these bottoms there are formed level plains which are generally covered with a sandy soil. On the side of the Coosa River, opposite the town of

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Wetumpka, there is an extended level plain which stretches away to the boundary of Autauga county. The character of the land belonging to this level stretch of country is a sandy surface with a stiff clay subsoil. This gives to the wagon-ways a perpetual firmness and renders hauling easy. Following along the Tallapoosa one finds a girt of superior lands which are excellent for the production of cotton and corn. Perhaps the best lands are found in the fork of the Coosa and Tallapoosa Rivers. These alluvial bottoms have been steadily planted for many years, and have yielded unceasingly heavy crops of cotton. The planters prize these river lands because of their capacity to produce the snowy staple more than any others in the county.

The lands that lie above those just alluded to, and which are above the point of the annual overflow of the rivers, are also superb cotton lands, and are regarded the safest for the production of that staple. Of course, it must not be understood that the production of cotton is confined to these lands. In different parts of the county are brown loam and slaty soils, which yield splendid crops.

The productions of the county which may be mentioned as staple are cotton, corn, wheat, oats, rice, peas, millet and sugar-cane.

Elmore has many magnificent pine forests. In consequence of these, a fine lumber and timber business long ago sprang up. Along its numerous streams of extensive water-power are found many large and flourishing mills. The vast domains of pine cover the great level tract of country stretching westward from Wetumpka to the utmost western boundary of the county. Very little shrubbery is here found, but there is a great variety of flowers, and many of them are found in plots or patches of great beauty.

Fruits, domestic and wild, grow with great readiness in Elmore, and in most sections do remarkably well. They always thrive when planted upon sand-covered land, as beneath there is almost the universal prevalence of a clay subsoil. Pears, apples, figs, grapes, peaches, raspberries, and others do quite well. The prevailing timbers are oak, pine, hickory, beech, walnut, magnolia, dogwood, gum, and persimmon. Yellow ochre is the only mineral thus far discovered.

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At Tallassee, on the Tallapoosa River, is the Tallassee Cotton Factory, which was, for many years, the largest mill of that character in the South. The falls in the river at this point furnish immense water-power, which is only slightly utilized. This is but one of the numerous sites favorable to the location of manufactories in the county. Splendid streams of water ramify the county in all directions. Among these are the Coosa and Tallapoosa Rivers, Shoal, Weoka, Mill, Safkahatchee, Hatchee Chubbee, Corn, and Wallahatchee Creeks. These lesser streams find outlets through either the Coosa or Tallapoosa Rivers.

The points of interest in the county are, Wetumpka, the county-seat, with a population of 1,500; and Tallassee, with about 1,600; and Robinson Springs. Wetumpka has long been noted as the location of the State penitentiary. The United States Government has recently begun at Wetumpka the construction of Lock No. 31 in the system of Locks and Dams for opening the Coosa River to navigation above that point. There remains but 68 miles of the river to be opened, viz., from Wetumpka to Lock No. 4, which is just below the Selma, Rome and Dalton Railroad bridge. When completed there will be uninterrupted navigation from a point above Rome, Ga., to Mobile, Ala., and Wetumpka, at the foot of the falls will utilize its immense water power and become a great manufacturing center. Tallassee is famous as a manufacturing center, and Robinson Springs, in former years, was a noted local resort for the *elite* of Montgomery. It is extremely healthful, and the brace of its clime and its refreshing waters of freestone made it a place of great attraction.

The educational advantages of the county are good, as are also facilities for the enjoyment of religious worship. The means of transportation are convenient. The Louisvillle and Nashville Railroad runs through the county, a branch of which terminates in Wetumpka, while in the eastern end the Western Railroad is sufficiently near to be quite accessible. The Coosa River furnishes another cheap means of transportation to Montgomery and Selma upon the Alabama River, and the cities upon the Southern coast.

Lands may be had from $1.50 to $15 per acre in the county. The government owns 1,000 acres of land subject to entry.

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BULLOCK COUNTY.

ESTABLISHED in 1866, the county took its name from Colonel E. C. Bullock, of Eufaula. It is located in a region which enables it to command all the conditions favorable to prosperity.

Its area comprises 660 square miles.

Population in 1880, 29,066; population in 1890, 27,063. White, 6,055; colored, 21,08.

Area planted in cotton, 81,950 acres; in corn, 51,708 acres; in rye, 37 acres; tobacco 1.

Cotton Production—30,547.

Directly through the center of Bullock, from east to west, extends a noted range of low hills, which are called Chunnenuggee Ridge.

This forms the water-shed for the Tallapoosa River on the north, and the streams that flow into the Gulf on the south. On the north, this low range of hills has an abrupt descent into the prairie lands, which extend to the utmost limit of the county in that direction. On the south, the hills slope gradually away and loose themselves into plains. Bullock has a variety of soils, principal among which are the dark prairie lands, sandy hammocks, gray land, and the white chalky soils. In the northern end of the county are to be seen the black lime lands and the post-oak prairies. Together, they constitute a fertile belt, which streches across the county, having a width varying from five to ten miles. In the southern portion of the county, or that part which lies south of Chunnenuggee Ridge, there is a variety of soils, comprising the loam lands, the growth of which are short-leaf pine, oak and hickory, then again loam soils, with black-jack, as a prevailing growth, and still again, the thinner or pine lands. The last named soils cover about one-half of the southern territory, the other two the remainder.

The county produces cotton, corn, oats, rye, and sweet potatoes as its staples.

The section has long been noted for its capacity to produce cotton especially, and vast quantities of it are raised. But it is as well suited to the production of corn. The small grains are

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receiving more attention of late years. But fully one-half of the tillable soils are devoted to cotton.

The forests support an abundance of such growth as pine, red, post and white oak, together with elm, poplar, gum, ash, hickory, walnut, chestnut, magnolia, cottonwood, maple and dogwood.

The county is well watered, thoughout, being drained by such streams as Oakfuskee, Capiahatchee, Calibee, Cowike, Old Town, and Buckhorn Creeks. Artesian wells abound. The headwaters of Conecuh River are in this county. These streams generally abound in excellent fish.

Union Springs, the county-seat, and a thriving town of 2,200 inhabitants, Midway, and Enon, are points of importance.

Union Springs is situated on the Georgia Central Railroad, just midway between the cities of Montgomery and Eufaula. It is at the intersection of the Georgia Central and the Mobile & Girard Railroads. Through these channels of commerce, easy access is had with the cities of Montgomery, Eufaula, Columbus and Troy. It possesses superior school and church advantages, and has as excellent hotels as any point of the same size in the South. Surrounded by a superior agricultural region, it is a good cotton market. The other points named have also good churches and schools, as has every point in the county which has sufficient population.

The county is highly favored with railway transportation, being penetrated by two railroads, viz: The Montgomery & Eufaula, or the Georgia Central, and the Mobile & Girard Railroad.

Like most of the other counties in the great agricultural region of the State, no attention has heretofore been called to the capabilities of the soils, the healthfulness, and other numerous advantages which are possessed by Bullock county.

Lands, fertile as they are, and productive of crops in rapid rotation, are purchasable at amazingly low figures in the county. They may be bought for from $2.50 to $10 per acre.

The people are highly favorable to such immigrants as would enhance the thrift of the county.

There are in Bullock, only 40 acres of government land, which may be settled by those who desire its occupation under the entry act.

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MACON COUNTY.

THE above named county was formed in 1832, and named for Nathaniel Macon, Esq., of North Carolina. The county has long been noted for the intelligence and thrift of its inhabitants. Prior to the war its centers of interest were abodes of wealth, intelligence, and refinement. The county has been gradually rallying from the prostrating influences of the war, and is now assuming its wonted place among the best counties of the State. Its social and material advantages are vast, and, when combined, they furnish the county elements of advancement inferior to none of the agricultural counties of the great Cotton Belt. The area of Macon county embraces 630 square miles.

Population in 1880, 17,371; population in 1890, 18,937; white, 9,251; colored, 14,188.

Area planted in cotton, 56,134 acres; in corn, 26,803 acres; in oats, 9,990 acres; in wheat, 73 acres; in rye, 7 acres.

Cotton production, 19,099 bales.

The general surface of the county is undulating, except in the northwest, which is inclined to hills; but there are no elevations of any note within the territory of Macon. The lands, as a rule, lie quite well for drainage and cultivation. In the northern, northeastern, and northwestern portions of the county the soil is of a light, sandy character. Skirting the water courses, it is much more fertile and productive. In the southern, southeastern, and southwestern parts of the county the soils are very fine, being rich loam with clay, lime or sand predominating according to the locality. Usually speaking, the bottoms of the county are very fertile. While Chewacla creek, for the most part, winds its way through regions of pine, there are to be found bordering it lands of a blueish hue which are very productive. Perhaps the richest lands lie along Big Swamp creek. Thus it will be seen that a diversity of soils prevails throughout the entire county, and these give rise to a diversity of crops. Chief among the products of the farm are cotton, corn, potatoes, peas, wheat, oats, rye, millet, rice, sugar cane and peanuts.

A favorable year witnesses a production of all these, and in profusion. Wild grasses and clovers grow spontaneously in the waste places and upon lands that have been turned out.

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There is very little trouble, therefore, to maintain stock which, running at large, is found to remain in excellent condition during almost the entire year. Domestic grasses have as yet received but little attention. Swamp cane grows in rank profusion along the water courses, and sometimes serves to sustain stock during an entire winter. Fruits are easily grown in the soils of Macon —apples, pears, peaches, grapes, cherries, walnuts, plums, figs, quinces, pomegranates, raspberries, strawberries, and melons yield readily in proportion to the attention bestowed upon them. Many wild fruits are found in the old fields and along the edge of swamps and through the forests. These include blackberries, strawberries, dewberries, muscadines, chestnuts, etc.

Through the swamps the towering oaks yield a vast abundance of mast, which serve to fatten the hogs during the fall and winter without the owners being subjected to the slightest expense. The county is watered by the Ufoupee, Chewacla, Calabee, Big Swamp, Cupiahatchee, and Oakfuskee creeks. The Tuskaloosa River sweeps through the northwestern corner. Many smaller streams exist, furnishing an abundant water supply to all parts of the county. The water from the springs and wells is pure and delightful.

The timbers are, oak, hickory, pine, poplar, beech, red elm, gum, magnolia and maple. The forests are frequently drawn upon for the manufactories.

In the northern end of the county are vast quarries of excellent granite. It has been pronounced the finest quality. These quarries have been partially developed, and a track of three miles graded from Notasulga, on the Western Railroad to the granite beds. Red ochre of good quality has been discovered on Red Creek. This is attracting considerable attention because of its abundance and quality. Near Cowles' Station, on the Western Railroad, the soil is admirably adapted to the production of fruit. A peach farm of twenty-five thousand trees has just been planted.

There are two railroads which furnish transportation for the products of the county, viz: The Western Railroad, and the Tuskegee Narrow Guage. These serve to place the county into easy connection with the great lines which converge both at Montgomery and Atlanta. The towns of importance are, Tuskegee, the county-seat, with a population of 1,500, Notasulga and La Place.

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Tuskegee has long been famous as an educational seat. Here is located the Alabama Conference Female College, which is an institution of great merit, and the Alabama High School for boys and young men. At the other places named, are good schools, and indeed in every part of the county are good common schools. Churches exist in towns and county alike, affording facilities for religious worship.

The moral tone of the society in Macon county is excellent.

Persons wishing to locate in this favorable region, may purchase lands at nominal figures. In some portions, lands may be had at $1 per acre, while the best may be purchased for $10 per acre. A cordial greeting will be given settlers who desire to locate their homes in this county. Great natural advantages are offered, which are coupled with the social benefits already enumerated. Under well directed energy, comfort, ease, and bounty may be secured upon the lands of Macon county. The county is without government land.

RUSSELL COUNTY.

THE county which bears the name above given was established in 1832, and named for Colonel Gilbert C. Russell, of Mobile. This is one of the border counties of the State, being separated from Georgia by the Chattahoochee River. It has many valuable tracts of land and a thrifty population.

The county embraces an area of 670 square miles.

Population in 1880, 24,837; population in 1890, 24,093. White, 5,814; colored, 18,279.

Area planted in cotton, 66,772 acres; in corn, 32,502 acres; in oats, 5,631 acres; in wheat, 47 acres; in rye, 63 acres; in tobacco, 1 acre.

Cotton production—20,521 bales.

The general surface of Russell county is undulating, and in some sections broken. It abounds in capital agricultural lands, many of which have been in cultivation for quite a number of years. Its soils differ widely in their character, but are generally quite productive.

Beginning our survey with the lands in the eastern part of the

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county, and those which lie along the western bank of the historic Chattahoochee, we find them to be excellent for farming purposes, the loamy soil having the color of chocolate. These embrace a belt five or six miles in width, when the more elevated table-lands begin. These are covered with a red loam soil, and are considered even more valuable than those which lie in close proximity to the river. Beyond this, still westward, are the hill regions, which have long sustained a reputation for productiveness. Next this comes a range of gravelly hills, which penetrate the county near the center. From this point to the extreme western boundary there is quite a diversity of soil, produced largely by the numerous streams which ramify this portion of Russell. In this western half may be found rich alluvial bottoms, as well as thin, sandy, ridge lands. These lands are peculiarly adapted to the production of corn, cotton, oats, potatoes and sugar-cane. The bottom lands are usually preferred for cotton. The lands are generally tilled with ease. Every variety of soil may be found in the county, from that of sand to that of the most fertile black prairie and blue marl. The county is highly favored in its dense forests of excellent timber. Both the short-leaf and yellow or long-leaf pine, the white, red, water and blackjack oaks, hickory, gum, beech, dogwood, willow, maple, timbers, prevail in different sections of Russell. The county has ample supplies of water throughout the entire year. The Chattahoochee River forms the entire eastern boundary of the county, giving a river front of more than fifty miles, while its territory is watered by such streams as Hatchechubbee, Big and Little Uchee, North and Middle Forks of Cowikee and Wetumpka Creeks. These bold streams are fed by numerous tributaries that drain every section of the county. The springs and wells afford abundant supplies of superior water for domestic uses. These water supplies, taken in connection with the readiness with which grass and clover are produced, suggest the ease with which stock may be raised. This will no doubt become, in the years of the future, one of the leading industries of Russell.

The chief towns are Seale, the county-seat, with a population of 300, Girard 300, Hurtsboro 600, Jernigan 250, and Hatchechubbee. Pittsboro and Paradise, new and growing towns on the Savannah, Americus & Montgomery Railroad, and Crawford are inviting points. Flourishing schools exist in these, as well as in

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every hamlet and village in the county. Hurtsboro has long been noted for its educational spirit.

The Mobile & Girard and Savannah, Americus & Montgomery Railroads and the packets upon the Chattahoochee furnish transportation facilities to the people of the county. Columbus, Georgia, a large and flourishing city, on the opposite bank of the river to Russell, affords a fine market to the inhabitants of the county.

The people of Russell are alive to the importance of developing the wealth of their highly-favored county, and they look for that development to come mainly from the industry and energy of those who will come in and occupy their valuable lands. These can be purchased at prices ranging from $1.50 to $10.00 per acre.

The government lands have been exhausted in the county.

BARBOUR COUNTY.

THE county of Barbour was formed in 1832 and named for Governor James Barbour, of Virginia. It has long been one of the leading counties of the State. It has been noted, not only for the thrift and prosperity of its citizens, but for their refinement and intelligence, as well. The county has furnished a number of the most distingushed men of the State. No other county leads Barbour in its progress in agriculture and the manufactures. It has an area of 860 square miles.

Population in 1880, 33,979; population in 1890, 34,898. White, 13,454; colored, 21,444.

Area planted in cotton, 104,738 acres; in corn, 64,826 acres; in oats, 8,654 acres; in wheat, 3 acres; in rye, 64 acres; in tobacco, 2 acres.

Cotton Production—33,440 bales.

It will be seen by these figures that Barbour is emphatically an agricultural county. For the pursuit of agricultnre, it is most admirably fitted by nature. It has generally a slightly undulating surface, with hills along the northern end. The lower portions of the county are generally level. Barbour creek, a large stream which flows nearly through the heart of the county, in a southeasterly direction, divides it into two sections. North of this stream are the most fertile lands. Amid the Cowikees (a

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name given a group of streams in that section) we find a portion of the famous Black Belt. Here have been for many years, and still are, the extensive plantations which have given Barbour such a reputation abroad as a superb farming section. Almost without exception, the lands in this region possess superior fertility. A large proportion of the colored population is found in this region, whither they have located as the tillers of the soil. They live directly upon these productive lands, while the white settlements are upon the knolls and more elevated portions. For social refinement and elevation, this part of the county can not be surpassed. The prolific lands of this region have an admixture of lime, and away from the streams are reddish or light colored. Those bordering the several forks or creeks which water this section are much more sandy, but highly productive.

Looking southward from Barbour Creek, the lands are freer from hills and much more sandy than those lying beyond the stream and in the north. In this part of the county (the southern) the surface land has a deep clay subsoil, and is susceptible of a high degree of fertilization. It is described as being highly favorable to small model farms, as different crops can be readily planted and gathered in rotation.

A high ridge follows the windings of Pea River, which is not so fertile as the neighboring regions, but which is thickly timbered with valuable oak, hickory, and walnut.

The productions of Barbour county are cotton, corn, oats, peas, millet, sorghum, potatoes (sweet and Irish), and sugar-cane. The last-named product is so easy of cultivation, and under favorable circumstances is so productive, that it is annually assuming greater importance.

All the vegetables grown in the Temperate Zone flourish here without limit.

Fruits are easily raised and are winning more attention year by year. Pears, peaches, plums, grapes, figs and melons of every variety are the fruits which are generally grown. Near the city of Eufaula is located a farm which annually grows large quantities of seeds for northern seed houses. This can be made quite a lucrative business. On the same farm are now growing 2,500 LeConte pear trees. This fruit grows to perfection in this soil and climate.

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Grasses and clovers grow beautifully in the county, both in their native wildness and when cultivated. These, together with the wild cane, which grows along the streams, keep the stock roaming at large in excellent condition almost throughout the year.

The woods of the county are mainly stocked with such timbers as oak, hickory, poplar, long-leaf pine, walnut, and persimmon.

The county is drained in the north by the several forks of Cowikee Creek, along the eastern slopes by the Chattahoochee, the central and southern parts by the headwaters of the Choctawhatchee River and the western part by Pea River. This affords an idea of the superior watering facilities of the county.

From the hills in the southwest have been gathered specimens of iron ore. Lime rocks prevail in abundance in different portions of Barbour, while specimens of kaolin have been secured. In the town of Louisville is a bed of green marl about twelve or eighteen feet below the surface and in vast quantities. Repeated experiments by gardners prove its value.

In the southern portion of the county four miles above the line of Dale is a great natural curiosity in the form of a magnificent spring, the dimensions of which are 40x80 feet. Its waters are of a bluish cast and so transparent that the light glows through them. The eye of a fish is distinctly seen in their shining depths. This was once a point of popular resort, but since the destruction of the spacious hotel it has been abandoned as such. The waters of this wonderful spring are supposed to possess wonderful curative powers. There issues directly from it a large, bold stream.

Eufaula, a city of 6,000 inhabitants, Clayton, the county-seat and a point of interest, having quite an educational spirit, and Louisville, with a population of several hundred, and Batesville, are the important centers of the county. Among these Louisville may be mentioned as one of the oldest towns in this section of Alabama, and has long been noted as possessing a thrifty and intelligent population. Eufaula is one of the principal cities of the State. By reason of its location as a commercial center, it has long been regarded a point of great importance. This estimate of the city is further enhanced by the projected railway from this point to Florida. It crowns a lofty bluff on the west bank of the Chattahoochee River, 180 feet high, overlooking that stream for many miles, in both directions, and commanding a view of beautiful landscapes for a great distance beyond. It is noted for

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its health, superior society, enterprising business men, schools and churches. Its compresses, machine shops, factories, foundries, flouring and corn mills, weaving mill, and presses attest its importance as an enterprising center. It has good hotels and many handsome private residences. Its church architecture will compare favorably with that of any city in the South. It has a female college and superior male schools.

Arrangements have been consummated for the erection of a $100,000 cotton factory at Eufaula.

Clayton, the county-seat of Barbour county, is 21 miles west of the Chattahoochee river, and is on the line of the Eufaula & East Alabama Railroad. It has a population of about 2,100, and is a place of considerable commercial importance, receiving about 20,000 bales of cotton per annum; it has a bank of $50,000 capital, and there is now in process of erection a guano factory, with a capital of $50,000. Clayton is surrounded by a large territory of the best farming lands in the famous "Cotton Belt," and these lands being cultivated by industrious, intelligent and enterprising white people, give the town a large retail trade.

Here are as good schools as can be found in any town in the State. Four churches for the whites and two for the blacks, each attended by good congregations. The population of this town is intelligent, industrious, and possess the hospitality characteristic of Southern people.

Educational advantages are found in every portion of the county. Churches exist also in every section.

Transportation is secured through the Montgomery & Eufaula Railroad, the Central Railroad of Georgia, the Eufaula & Clayton Railroad, and the Chattahoochee River.

Lands may be had, by those wishing to settle in Barbour, at prices ranging from $2.50 to $20 per acre. No people would hail more readily the influx of a thrifty, industrious population than those of Barbour county.

There are 480 acres of government land still untaken in the county,

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THE TIMBER BELT.

THE Timber Belt of Alabama lies directly south of the great Cotton, or Black Belt, and north of the Gulf of Mexico. The name of the region is suggested by its superb timber, but, as has been said of the other grand divisions of the State, this is not the only characteristic attaching to this great section. Indeed, there are splendid forests in every section of Alabama. There is not a county in the State but has an abundance of wood for all practical purposes if it is saved from wanton destruction, while the vast majority of the counties have timbers in great quantities and varieties. Even in the sections which are richest in mineral ores there are not unfrequently to be met extensive forests of as valuable timber as can be found on the continent. The same is true of the agricultural sections of Alabama. These fertile lands, where they remain uncleared, are stocked with timber of great value.

The reference to the extent of these forests will be more appreciated when it is learned that more than one-third of the State is covered with forests of timber. These embrace 20,930,963 acres. The South is the most heavily wooded section of the civilized world, unless it be the uncleared portions of Canada. The woodlands of this section have attracted more attention and allured more capital than any other one element of the native wealth of the South. In both the Expositions held in New Orleans the South led all the other sections of the Union in her exhibitions of timber. And when we remember that there was a liberal outlay of public funds in many of the States of a higher latitude with which to exhibit their resources, and recall the fact that but few of the States of the South made any appropriation for this purpose, we gain a clearer view of the richness of wealth embraced in our vast Woodland regions.

Northern and European capitalists show their appreciation of the value of our wooded lands by the purchase of them. The manufactories of Cincinnati and other Western cities, now that they have exhausted the timbers needed by themselves in their

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own section, are turning their attention to the forests of the South.

The extensive region known as the Timber Belt of Alabama, embraces the fifteen counties which lie in the southern end of the State, viz: Washington, Mobile, Baldwin, Clarke, Monroe, Escambia, Conecuh, Butler, Covington, Crenshaw, Pike, Coffee, Geneva, Dale and Henry. It presents great uniformity of character in its surface conformation, in its soils, and in its vegetation. The surface is generally undulating, with occasional hills breaking off into the fertile bottoms which lie along the numerous water-courses. There is the frequent occurrence, however, of level plateaus or table-lands, which cover immense areas. The surface soil of this region is generally of a sandy nature. In the bottoms and in the lands which lie adjacently the soils are quite fertile, and yield largely of all the productions of this latitude. But for the thinner soils nature has provisions ready at hand with which to enrich them. Nutritive manures are easily made from the abounding pine straw and the excrements of the herds of stock, which are easily sustained from one end of the year to the other by the native grasses and clovers and the wild cane which grows along the streams. This section of Alabama was one vast pasture land when it was the home of the Indian. The prevailing fires, which are suffered at certain seasons to break out, have proved injurious to the hearts and roots of the grasses and herbs of the forests, and have impaired them in some sections. This region has many advantages, and is susceptible of great results under an improved system of agriculture.

Besides its great wealth of forest and its easy adaptibility to stock-raising, its soils are capable of producing excellent crops. In addition still may be mentioned the fact that it is the best watered section of Alabama, and its clear, brisk streams furnish fine water-power for manufacturing purposes.

But the peculiar glory of this section is its immense forests, which cover uninterruptedly hundreds of thousands of acres. In these extensive forests the yellow or long-leaf pine may be indicated as being most prevalent of all the woods. The grand forests

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of this timber sweep down to the Atlantic and along the Gulf coast from North Carolina to Texas.

The width of this section as it relates to Alabama and extends entirely across the State from east to west is about 150 miles. In most of the counties already named as constituting the Timber Belt, the pine forests remain as they did when the red men held sway. In some counties they have not been the least invaded in districts embracing many thousands of acres. Practically speaking, the great pine forests of Alabama are untouched. And great as are the other resources of Alabama—mineral and agricultural—they find a peer in the great timber wealth of Alabama forests. These trees, many of them grow to a considerable height, attaining sometimes that of 150 feet. Magnificent spars are hewn from our forests, oftentimes seventy-five feet long, and shipped to the distant markets of the globe. But this is not the only use to which the pine is devoted. The rosin, which is extracted from the trees, when confined and converted into turpentine, becomes an indispensable adjunct to the arts, and is a great factor of commerce.

In this region, as elsewhere, the devout student sees the striking evidences of Divine wisdom in the wonderful adjustment of means to ends. The streams flowing down from the hills of the north grow broader and deeper as they approach the seas upon the south. Making their way through these boundless forests, and usually flowing between low embankments, they seem designed as great channels to convey these timbers to ports of the sea. For many years they have been so employed by lumbermen, and in many instances have resulted in the speedy enrichment even of humble hewers of wood.

But the yellow or long-leaf pine forests are largely interspersed with different varieties of oak, and in the swamps, which usually prevail along the streams, there are hundreds of thousands of acres of superb oak timber. These immense districts of oak have scarcely been touched, because of the absence of manufactories in this section calling for the consumption of such timber.

Along the lower streams, such as the Alabama and Tombigbee, timbers are sometimes hewn upon a limited scale, and floated to such points as Mobile, for the manufacture of hoops and staves.

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These forests of oak are destined to play a conspicious part in the future development of the wealth of this State.

Another important wood which prevails is the cypress. This is found in the extreme lower section of the great Timber Belt. There are cypress mills along the coast, notably in Mobile and at Stockton, on the Tensas River.

Hickory is also an important factor, and in this latitude attains to great size. And so there are the beech, magnolia, cedar, maple, dogwood, ironwood, juniper, ash, walnut, holly, cottonwood, poplar, and the sweet gum.

Not until of late years has the last named product been appreciated in the manufactories. The rapid disappearance of walnut, as an article of manufacture, has driven cabinet makers to search for a substitute. This, they have discovered largely in the sweet gum of the great timber regions of the South. The tree grows large, tall, and straight, and when subjected to the finish of the tool, it yields a bright glazed surface, beneath which is a dark, firm, and durable texture. *The Chicago Lumberman* states that, notwithstanding the original opposition to gum, it is making rapid headway in that great metropolis. It is largely used in furnishing the rooms of some of the handsomest residences in that city. The demand for gum is on the increase, both in Northern and Southern manufactories.

Along the swamps, and along the coasts of the southern extremity of the great Belt, there are vast quantities of swamp moss trailing from the trees. It is quite abundant, and is easily gathered. For many years it was unnoticed, except as an object of curiosity, giving a sombre complexion to our vast forests of swamp; but it is now being gathered and converted into mattresses. Hundreds of laborers are engaged in this work, and yet other hundreds will engage when its commercial value shall have been realized.

As an abode of health, the pine sections of Alabama can not be surpassed. Beneath the surface of sand is a fine red clay subsoil, into which wells are easily dug, which yield as pure freestone water as can be found. This, together with the aroma imparted from the resinous pine, furnishes one the surest means of health. Far into the interior the breezes from the Gulf find their way and

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tone the sultriness of our summers. This is quite perceptible to the residents of the interior, even as remotely as seventy-five miles from the Gulf coast.

The soils of the Timber Belt are peculiarly adapted to the root crops, fruits and vegetables. Sugar-cane, potatoes, yams, melons, peaches, pears, apricots, grapes, berries of every possible sort, pecans, pomegranates, apples, figs and oranges, all thrive, and invariably yield in proportion to the attention which is given them. There are many wild fruits of great value, which grow abundantly. Among these, may be named walnuts, hickory-nuts, blue and blackberries, dewberries, grapes and muscadines.

Thousands of bushels of these wild fruits grow every season in these forests. Blackberries and dewberries are the most valuable, abundant, and delicious of the fruits which grow wild. The abundance of these fruits at once suggest the ease and cheapness with which they could be canned, and easily converted into a commodity for the market.

And then the inexhaustible abundance of grasses and clovers, both wild and domestic, and the never failing streams of pure water, at once recommend this section as one wonderfully suited to stock raising. Ever since the early settlement of Alabama, these grassy forests have been used to a limited extent for stock-raising, but our people were so peculiarly agricultural, that it has not, until within recent years, excited any attention.

Grasses thrive almost the year round. The numerous streams which traverse this great region, are lined with broad margins of swamp cane, which remains perpetually green and tender. It is quite a nutritious forage. It is greatly relished by all kinds of stock. No section of the South affords greater inducements to the stock raiser than the Timber Belt of Alabama. His stock could be sustained almost exclusively by the spontaneous growth of the fields and forests.

Wool growing has received but slight attention, and yet has never failed to be greatly remunerative to the shepherd when attempted.

In reference to the capabilities of the soils of the Timber Belt, no reference was had to its productiveness of the staple growths of our Southern climate. Some of the finest plantations of corn

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and cotton found in Alabama, are seen within the territory of the Timber Belt.

Along the streams, as has already been said, the lands are very fertile, and here cotton and corn attain to as great perfection as elsewhere in the State. But experiments within the last fifteen years have demonstrated the fact that with proper fertilization and cultivation, the uplands in the pine districts of this Belt can be forced to yield amazingly.

Under the system of intense farming, the yield in some instances has been simply wonderful. Of late years experiments have been made in tobacco culture and with surprising results. Rapid developments have been made in the development of lands in the counties of Pike, Crenshaw, Dale, Henry, Geneva, Coffee, Covington, Escambia and Conecuh. As the flow of immigration has increased into these counties, the lands have been developed, the crops have been greatly increased both in variety and in quality, and the valuation of the lands advanced. The Commissioner of Agriculture is directing his attention to the commendable efforts which are being made to increase the variety of crops in this section of the State, and the indications point to a rapid improvement.

WASHINGTON COUNTY.

WASHINGTON is the oldest county in the State, having been created by Governor Sargent in 1800. It was named for the first President of the United States. Considerable historic interest attaches to the county. It has the honor of having within its limits the first capital of Alabama—St. Stephens. It was in this county that Aaron Burr was arrested, in 1807. It is alike noted for the quiet tone of its people, its forests of timber, its health, and its healing springs.

Area of the county, 1,050 square miles.

Population in 1880, 4,538; population in 1890, 7,935. White, 4,686; colored, 3,294.

Area planted in cotton, 4,579 acres; in corn, 6,429; in oats,

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246 acres; in sugar-cane, 99 acres; in sweet potatoes, 448 acres.

Cotton Production, 2,030 bales.

The general surface of Washington county may be described as rolling. In the northern part there is black prairie soil and lime hills. This stiff, black soil, though difficult to cultivate, is very fertile. It is a belt varying in width from two to ten miles. The central and southern portions are covered with pine lands, which are usually sandy, and are easily tilled. Most of these lands lie well, and are susceptible of a high degree of fertilization. When thus aided, the lands become very generous in their production, and the crops grow off rapidly, enabling the planter to cultivate several crops between the disappearance of frost in March and its reappearance in November. In the southern portion very fine cotton and corn are produced, the plants rivaling in size those which flourish upon the fertile canebrakes of the Cotton Belt. In the other parts of the county great quantities of cotton, corn, sugar-cane, potatoes, rice, oats and tobacco are produced. In addition to these there are raised, for home consumption, peas and peanuts in abundance. The people are made thrifty, independent and happy by the ready and abundant resources of their soils. Perennial pastures abound and stock is easily sustained.

The territory of the county is traversed by a number of excellent and perpetual streams, chief among which are the Tombigbee River, which forms its eastern boundary, and Sinta Bogue, Bassett's, Poll Bayou, Bate's, Bilboa's, Johnson's, Beaver, and Pine Barren Creeks. Dog River rises in the western part and flows through that portion.

Wells and springs of the purest freestone water are exuberant in their supplies in every portion of Washington. Many mineral springs are also found, which embrace iron, sulphur, magnesia, and alum, among other properties. The most noted of these springs are Healing and Sullivan springs. The waters of the last named springs are very valuable for many diseases.

In several portions of the county are excellent phosphate beds, notably on the Tombigbee River. Salt springs also are in successful operation in the county.

Transportation facilities are furnished by the Mobile & Ohio Railroad, which penetrates the western part of the county, and

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the Tombigbee River, which forms its eastern border line. These place the county in easy connection with markets North and South.

The Mobile & Birmingham Railroad is now completed and is quite an addition in the means of transportation to the county.

Pine, oak, hickory, beech, ash, cedar, cypress and dogwood are the trees which stock the forests of the county. Many of these are of matchless size, and are of great marketable value. Great quantities of turpentine are gathered from the pine forests.

St. Stephens, Frankville, Healing Springs and Escatawpa are the places of interest. A good common school system exists in the county.

Lands may be had for $1, or as high as $8 per acre. The inhabitants would be glad to welcome, as accessions to their population, earnest and energetic citizens.

The county of Washington embraces 70,560 acres of government land awaiting the occupation of settlers.

MOBILE COUNTY.

MOBILE was established in 1813, and named for the bay whose waters wash its eastern shores. It lies in the extreme southwest corner of the State, and is the wealthiest, most populous, and one of the largest counties of the Commonwealth.

Its climate, healthfulness, varied pursuits, and remarkably fine location give it some advantages over every other county in Alabama. It has an area of 1,200 square miles.

Population in 1880, 48,653; population in 1890, 51,587. White, 28,369; colored, 23,218.

Area planted in cotton, 48 acres; in corn, 2,398 acres; in oats, 64 acres; in rice, 191 acres; in sugar-cane, 151 acres; in sweet potatoes, 776 acres.

Cotton Production, 24 bales.

In the northern and western portions of the county there is an undulation of surface, while along the coast the lands are flat.

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As will appear from the statistics already furnished, but few of the lands of the county are devoted to farming purposes. Other pursuits engross the attention of the people, such as market gardening, fruit culture, and the fish and oyster trade. In some parts of the county stock raising has risen into prominence as an industry, and in others the lumber business is largely engaged in. Vast turpentine orchards claim attention of still others.

Mobile county is most liberally endowed by nature with all the conditions favorable to market gardening. With a climate remarkable for its blandness, a soil precisely adapted to this industry, and with easy and rapid transportation to the most distant markets of the country, Mobile is the Paradise of the market gardener. This industry has been rapidly growing through several years past, and is still on the increase. The proceeds accruing from the shipment of vegetables amounted to $700,000. Fully 100,000 acres of superb garden lands remain untouched in the county of Mobile. These vegetables and fruits include all that are produced in this latitude, viz: Cabbages, potatoes (sweet and Irish), beans, peas, cucumbers, tomatoes, watermelons, canteloupes, peaches, plums, Cuban sugarcane, grapes, etc.

Almost all these are shipped in large cargoes to points as remote as New York and Chicago, and furnish the people of these distant sections with the luxuries grown beneath the Southern sun, while yet their lakes and streams are locked with ice.

The fish and oyster trade is also immense, the proceeds of which amount annually to more than $250,000.

The timbers of the county include the oak, hickory, elm, magnolia, bay, cypress, sweet and sour gums, and yellow pine. The water outlets are furnished by the Mobile River and Bay on the one side, and the Escatawpa River on the other. Beautiful streams of perpetual flow ramify different portions of the county.

Mobile, Mt. Vernon, Citronelle, Whistler, and Spring Hill are the points of interest. Great attention is given at all these points to education and the maintenance of religious worship.

Means of transportation are superb, being furnished by the Louisville & Nashville, Mobile & Ohio Railroads, Mobile River and Bay, and a portion of the Gulf. A new line of railroad has been built from Mobile to Birmingham. Along the line of its

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route it penetrates the richest mineral domains in the State. This, together with other lines, will constitute the city of Mobile the natural receptacle and distributing point of the vast mineral stores of Alabama.

MOBILE.

Mobile, located at the mouth of Mobile River and upon a beautiful sheet of water stretching southward, known as the Mobile Bay, is the metropolis of Alabama. It is one of the oldest cities upon the Southern coast, having been established by Bienville as early as 1711. It is built upon a sandy plateau which is but slightly elevated above the surface of the waters of the neighboring bay. But the elevation is quite sufficient for natural drainage. Mobile is Alabama's only seaport.

> "Circled by waters that never freeze,
> Beaten by billows and swept by breeze."

Mobile enjoys a favorableness of location second to that of no other city on the continent. It has a population of 32,000, and has long been famous as a business mart.

Many years ago Commodore Maury predicted that the Gulf of Mexico would one day be the focus of the world's commerce. The construction of the contemplated Nicaragua Canal would speedily fulfil this prediction. The march of events seems now to be in that direction. The rapid development of the mineral deposits of central Alabama suggests other methods of transportation than those which are afforded simply by the railways, and this is leading to the urgent necessity of the removal of all natural obstructions from the numerous water-ways that cut their channels through the coal and iron fields and flow to the sea. Mobile is the focus of these numerous streams that drain the exhaustless ore fields of middle Alabama. It is the natural receiving point of all these vast stores that must find their way over rivers and railroads alike to seek an outlet to the markets of the globe.

Realizing the prospective importance of Mobile as a natural outlet to remoter parts of the productions of Alabama, whether of field, forest or mine, the projectors of railroads are directing their lines toward the city as a terminal facility. It is already

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in connection with the two great lines that bind it to the West, viz; The Louisville & Nashville and the Mobile & Ohio Railroads. Its great advantages are seen in the fact that it is the nearest Gulf port to Birmingham, Tuscaloosa, Chattanooga, Memphis, Nashville, Cairo, St. Louis, Columbus and Kansas City.

With the removal of the comparatively slight obstruction in the mouth of Mobile Bay, the city of Mobile will possess commercial advantages superior, perhaps, to those of any other city on the Southern coast. Ships drawing over twenty-three feet can enter and find safe and capacious anchorage in the lower bay, while vessels drawing seventeen feet can now come along the channel, which is being deepened by the Government, to the wharves of the city. It is proposed to deepen this passage way twenty-two feet. It is quite evident that Nature has designed Mobile as a great commercial center. Its growing trade has largely multiplied its industries, among which may be named its cotton-seed oil mill and oil cake manufactories, cotton and woolen goods manufactories, grist-mills, saw-mills, furniture factory, cigar and tobacco manufactories; its cotton mill, its coal, lumber, and lumber business, its bread and cracker, sash and blind, barrel and hogshead, lumber and wood establishments; foundries, machine shops, and tanneries. As a fish and oyster market, as well as a fruit market, it cannot be excelled.

Its streets are generally wide and well laid off and shaded by the native oak and magnolia. It has many palatial residences and many buildings of rare beauty. Its principal hotel, the Battle House, long esteemed one of the best in the South, has been refitted and affords unusual facilities for comfort. The parks and yards and gardens of Mobile abound in flowers of rarest beauty, and its groves of orange are spots of surpassing loveliness.

The educational advantages of Mobile have been proverbially excellent for almost a half century. The city takes great pride in the maintenance of her famous institution of learning—the Barton Academy. The Medical College of Alabama is located here. As a point of refuge from the chill and blast of a Northern clime, Mobile is without a rival. Generally the winters are exceedingly mild and but rarely at all harsh. But it is delightful as a place of residence even in midsummer. The cool breezes from the sea

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sweep it continually and fan away the scorching heat of summer tide. Dotting the coasts of the Bay, opposite the city, are magnificant hotels which have become famous as summer resorts. Conspicuous among these may be mentioned

POINT CLEAR,

which has been properly styled the Long Branch of the South. It is the finest resort of the South, combining as it does a magnificent hotel with all modern improvements, its accessibility to a market of meats, fruits, fish and oysters, unexcelled on the continent, its refreshing breezes of the sea, and its superb facilities for bathing. Leading from the city along the coast of the Bay is

THE FAMOUS SHELL ROAD,

which is seven miles in length. Flanked on the one side by the beautiful sheet of water—the Mobile Bay—thronged with its busy sails of commerce, and on the other by gardens and parks, and residences of rare architectural structure, the shell road can not be surpassed as a magnificent drive.

The natural, social, and commercial advantages possessed by Mobile indicate it as one of the coming cities of the South.

Mobile county contains 67,670 acres of land belonging to the government.

BALDWIN COUNTY,

BALDWIN county was created in 1809. It has the honor of being the largest county in the State, embracing within its limits a larger scope of territory than that embraced by the entire State of Rhode Island. Its area is 1,620 square miles.

Population in 1880, 8,603; population 1890, 8,941. White, 5,678; colored 3,263.

Area planted in cotton, 1,487 acres; in corn, 2,679 acres; in oats, 114 acres; in rice, 121 acres; in sugar-cane, 81 acres; in sweet potatoes, 484 acres; tobacco, 1 acre.

Cotton Production—663 bales.

The northern portion of Baldwin is undulating, the remainder a level surface with a gentle slope to the Gulf of Mexico. In the

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western portion of the county, above Mobile Bay, is a considerable tract of marshy country in the delta of the river.

There is an immense area of unimproved land yet to be occupied in the county.

Baldwin county may be represented as a vast pine forest, though in the western portion, on the Alabama, Mobile, and Tensas Rivers, and on the lakes and islands adjacent, there are considerable bodies of rich alluvial bottom lands, the greater part of which, however, is subject to annual overflow. The soils in these bottoms are accumulations of vegetable matter for ages, and could be reclaimed by means of levees, canals, and ditches. Were this effected, the yield would be simply marvelous.

But away from these alluvial flats, and nearly the entire surface of the county is covered with a luxuriant growth of long-leaf pine, beneath which flourish grasses of perennial green, which afford abundant pasturage for stock the entire year. The soil of these pine lands is usually of a light sand with a deep clay subsoil. There are vast domains of pine table lands.

The climate of the county is superb, being surrounded on three sides by Mobile and Perdido Bays and the Gulf of Mexico.

Owing to its unlimited pasturage facilities, the county is well adapted to raising cattle and sheep, neither of which need other than the herbage cropped through the forests, either summer or winter. Stock-raisers are careful to pen their stock once a year and brand them, and but little attention is given them afterwards, only as they are herded and driven to market.

Wool-growing is quite a profitable branch of business in the county. There are several large sheep ranches which contain herds of three or four thousand head. The services of only one man is needed to protect the flock from the ravages of dogs, wild hogs, wild cats, and eagles.

Along the streams and in the swampy lowlands there are extensive districts of luxuriant wild cane and green grass, which afford fine winter pasturage for stock. Many of the places are entirely surrounded by water which obviates the expense of fencing.

The lumber and turpentine interests are chief. Vast quantities of both pine and cypress lumber are sawn and shipped to

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distant markets. The mills are located upon streams, down which the logs are floated, and after being manufactured into lumber, are ready for shipment. The turpentine industry gives employment to many of the people.

Market-gardening and orchard culture claim considerable attention. Oranges are successfully grown along the southern coast, and grapes, figs, plums, and apples do well. The production of these fruits is favored by the deep clay subsoil.

Game is still found in the great forests of Baldwin. Deer, wild cats, foxes, squirrels, and raccoons are found everywhere. Occasionally a bear is found in the deep swamps and canebrakes along the rivers. The streams abound in the most magnificent specimens of fresh water fish, while oysters are inexhaustible along the coasts.

The Mobile, Alabama, Tensas, Fish, and Perdido Rivers, besides innumerable lakes and Mobile and Perdido Bays, afford an extensive water front and fine commercial facilities. Besides these, the interior of the county is penetrated by many clear flowing streams, affording exhaustless supplies of water throughout the year.

The level face of the lands and their deep clay subsoils favor fertilizing, and when thus aided they produce well.

Montgomery Hill, Montpelier, Stockton, Daphne, the county-seat and Bay Minette are points of interest, having good society, schools, and churches. Upon the coast are Bon Secour and Point Clear, which are delightful resorts for summer. Many of the wealthiest families of Mobile and New Orleans resort hither during the summer season.

Lands in Baldwin are remarkably cheap. Where the timber has been removed they may be purchased at 25 to 50 cents per acre. Others may be had for $1 and $5 per acre.

Many government lands exist, and are subject to entry, there being 72,800 acres.

Men of limited means, but of industrious habits, could not find a more inviting region for settlement than Baldwin county.

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CLARKE COUNTY.

THIS county was created in 1812. It is historically associated with many of the bloody scenes enacted during the prevailing war of that time.

The county is favorably situated, and has many natural advantages. It has an area of 1,160 square miles.

Population in 1880, 17,808; population in 1890, 22,624. White, 9,685; colored, 12,934.

Area planted in cotton, 42,337 acres; in corn, 32,908 acres; in oats, 4,169 acres; in tobacco, 2 acres; in rye, 2 acres; in sugar-cane, 200 acres; in rice, 22 acres; in sweet potatoes, 1,256 acres.

Cotton Production—16,376 bales.

The face of the country is diversified with hills and valleys. There is a southward slope to the junction of the Alabama and Tombigbee Rivers, which unite and form a sharp angle at the southern extremity of the county. A peculiarity belonging to the general surface, is that the dividing ridge between the Alabama and Tombigbee Rivers, runs within ten miles of the former stream the entire length of the county. This turns all the main streams either to the west or southwest, and thus causes them to traverse almost the entire width of Clarke.

The soil varieties of this county are rather numerous, embracing the thin pine lands, sandy basins, alluvial bottoms, upland loams, gray, limy, and the shell prairie. Those along the river bottoms, upon the uplands, and belonging to the shell prairie sections, are the most valuable. The basins which lie along the creeks, have too great a preponderance of sand to be arable. The lands mostly planted in cotton are the second bottoms or hammocks of the two rivers, which are oftimes several miles wide. These hammocks are aided very greatly by the washings from the lime hills. In several parts of Clarke, are found many attractive farms. The productions of the county are cotton, corn, oats, potatoes, sugar-cane, peas, and peanuts. All these flourish quite readily. Such fruits as apples, peaches, pears, pomegranates, figs, and grapes, are remunerative in response to proper attention. There are many wild fruits, such as grapes, muscadines, blackberries, and hickory nuts.

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The swamps abound in the largest oaks, which yield annually large quantities of acorns, which serve to fatten hundreds of hogs.

Where lands are thrown out, grasses grow spontaneously almost every month in the year, furnishing rich pasturage to stock-raising, free. Along the streams are dense thickets of cane, which remain green the year through, and supplies cattle and horses with food during the winter.

Clarke abounds in forest of excellent timber, comprising oak, poplar, hickory, beech, bay, cypress, maple, elm, cedar, and pine. Vast pine forests prevail in several portions of Clarke, and the trees are sometimes rafted to Mobile, where they find a ready market. Some attention is now being bestowed upon the improvement of stock. In the western part of the county are quite a number of salt springs and wells, to which the people of that and adjoining counties were forced to resort and manufacture salt during the late war, while the ports of the South were blockaded.

There is a noted mineral well at Jackson, upon the Tombigbee River. The waters have excellent curative properties. The principal streams which supply the different portions of Clarke with water, are the Alabama and Tombigbee Rivers; on the eastern and western borders respectively, Bashi, Tallahatta, Satilpa, Jackson's, and Bassett's Creeks.

At Wood's Bluff, on the Tombigbee River, there is to be seen the presence of green sand marl, though its extent is not known. Large quantities of gypsum are found in different portions of the county. Mineral springs, possessing rare curative powers are said to have been lately discovered.

The points of importance are Grove Hill, the county-seat, with a population of 200, Gainestown, Suggsville, Coffeeville, Gosport, Jackson, Thomasville, Whatley, Walder Springs, Bashi, Choctaw Corner. Thomasville is a growing railroad town, located on the Mobile & Birmingham Railway, at which point, there is more business done than at any other point in the county. Schools and churches are to be met with in every portion of the county, and at some points, educational facilities are of a superior character.

Transportation is afforded the county by the Alabama and Tom-

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bigbee Rivers, and the Mobile & Birmingham Railroad. The creation of this new line has infused life into the county whose natural interior advantages only needed an outlet to secure developments. This new thoroughfare links together Mobile and Birmingham, and passes directly through Clarke. The Pensacola & Memphis Railroad will also vastly benefit the county when built. Lands may be purchased in the county for figures running from $1 to $5 per acre.

There are 18,680 acres of government land in Clarke, which are subject to entry.

The people of Clarke are eager to have their lands peopled by a thrifty, energetic population.

MONROE COUNTY.

MONROE county was created in 1815, and named in honor of President Monroe, of Virginia. It was one of the first counties of the State settled by the whites, and its people have been uniformly thrifty while engaged chiefly in planting. Many of the productive lands belonging to the Timber Belt are found in this county. Like many others, Monroe has been greatly checked in its progress because of the remoteness of transportation from the larger part of the population. It has an area of 1,030 square miles.

Population in 1880, 17,091; population in 1890, 18,990. White, 8,379; colored, 10,611.

Area planted in cotton, 41,882 acres; in corn, 26,715 acres; in oats, 4,704 acres; in rice, 78 acres; in sugarcane, 329 acres; in tobacco, 2 acres; in rye, 18 acres; in sweet potatoes, 920 acres.

Cotton production—15,959 bales.

In the northern portion of Monroe, the surface is broken; in the central and southern parts it is undulating. The several soils belonging to the county are the thin, sandy lands, which characterize the pine regions in this Belt; the lime hills, which are usually in the neighborhood of the principal streams; the loamy soils, which belong to the uplands, and the alluvial bottoms which

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border the large creeks and the Alabama River. The bottoms are largely influenced by the washings from the limy hills. Notwithstanding the broken surface in the northern portion of Monroe, some of the most prosperous planters are found there. The most valuable lands of the county, and those upon which are established the thriftiest farms, are in the bottoms of Flat and Limestone Creeks and the Alabama River. These are more difficult of cultivation, however, than the loamy uplands, because of their stiffness. The better class of uplands are very desirable, however, and are classed among the safe farming lands. The higher pine lands have a sandy surface, with a deep clay subsoil. Cotton, corn, oats, peas, potatoes, millet, sorghum, sugarcane, and ground peas are the chief productions. Apples, peaches, pears, plums, quinces, pomegranates, raspberries, and grapes are the fruits commonly grown. Vast crops of wild fruits are annually produced, such as hickorynuts, persimmons, blackberries, dewberries, and chestnuts. In the swamps which usually follow the large streams there are immense quantities of acorns and beech mast, upon which the hogs readily thrive. The timbers are long and short-leaf pine, the different species of oak, hickory, beech, poplar, elm, cedar, cypress, maple and dogwood. Immense domains of pine forests abound in different parts of the county. These timbers will prove valuable when the county has greater transportation facilities. The county is bounteously supplied with water by Flat Creek and its several forks, Limestone, Tallatchee, Lovett and Randall Creeks, and the Alabama River. Innumerable freestone wells and springs are found. Monroe Springs, in the north-eastern part of the county, are valuable for their mineral properties, chief among which are sulphur and chalybeate. They were once a noted resort, but their inaccessibility has prevented the maintenance of their reputation before the public. They are destined to come again into prominence. Marl deposits of value have been discovered upon Flat Creek, near Burnt Corn, and in the high bluffs, near Claiborne. Green sand marl is also seen at Bell's Landing and Johnson's Woodyard, on the Alabama River. These are supposed to extend across the county and to

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give fertility to the lands lying along Flat Creek, and are enriching the soil of northern Conecuh.

The points of interest are Monroeville, the county-seat, with a population of 400, Perdue Hill, Buena Vista, Burnt Corn and Pineville.

The school and church advantages of the county are good.

Transportation is afforded by the Alabama River, and by the Selma & Pensacola Railroad, in Wilcox, and the Louisville & Nashville, as it passes through the adjoining county of Conecuh. A short gap of the Selma & Pensacola Railroad is uncompleted in the county. When finished it will open it up to the Gulf.

Lands may be had for figures running from $1.25 to $10 per acre. About 50,000 acres of public lands exist in the county. Anxious to have the prosperity of the county enhanced, and its unoccupied lands taken, the people would hail with delight the influx of an industrious population.

ESCAMBIA COUNTY.

THE county of Escambia was constituted in 1868, and named for the beautiful river which flows across it. It is one of the youngest counties in the State, but is regarded one of the thriftiest in the great Timber Belt. It has peculiar natural advantages in its forest wealth, its smooth topography, and its deep and wide streams. It has an area of 1,000 square miles.

Population in 1880, 5,719; population in 1890, 8,666. White, 5,843; colored, 2,823.

Area planted in cotton, 972 acres; in corn, 6,630 acres; in oats, 983 acres; in sugar cane, 83 acres; in rice, 405 acres; in sweet potatoes, 494 acres.

Cotton Production—462 bales.

Escambia lies in the heart of the long-leaf pine region. The county is, in general, a level district of pine woods, the uniform surface of which is broken only by small valleys which are occa-

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sioned by the creeks and branches and the lime-sinks. The soil is uniformly a light, sandy loam of prevailing light colors, and is not very productive unless aided with fertilizers. The high yield of the few acres planted in the county show that these level soils are capable of doing well when properly helped and judiciously tilled. The most fertile land, naturally, found in the county is along the Conecuh River, where are found alluvial deposits. Fortunately, these sandy lands are quite level, and hence are not exposed to washing, and will retain all the fertilizers used upon them. Their character is such as to favor the rapid rotation of crops. The sandy surface throughout is underlaid with a deep clay subsoil.

Cane, corn, rice, millet, sorghum, sweet and Irish potatoes, and peas are the chief products of the farm. Tobacco is also now being raised. All these do well, but of the sugar cane and the potatoes it is doubtful whether any portion of the Union can surpass this section in their production. This county produces more sugar cane than any other county in the State.

Last year immense quantities of the purest molasses or syrup was made. Besides furnishing a sufficiency for home consumption, quantities of it was shipped to the West. The potato attains a sweetness and size here which are but rarely attained elsewhere. Peaches, pears, grapes, apples, figs, pomegranates and quinces grow in the orchards, while vegetables of every character thrive and supply the homes almost from one end of the year to the other. Of the fruits, grapes do exceedingly well.

Orchard culture and truck farming would, no doubt, prove profitable pursuits in the region adjacent the railway lines which penetrate the county.

But the glory of Escambia is her magnificent forests of pine. In this county the expansive domains of yellow or long-leaf pine may be seen in its perfection. These pines give rise to the chief industries of the county, viz: The timber, lumber and turpentine business. Some of the finest and best equipped saw mills and turpentine distilleries known to the South are found in Escambia county. Timbers are hewn from the forests and rafted along the

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large streams to the mills to be converted into lumber, or else to Pensacola, where a ready market awaits them. These lumber and turpentine industries are near the Louisville & Nashville Railroad, which traverses the county north and south.

Luxuriant herbage grows throughout these pine districts, affording grasses to cattle and sheep. So little is the expense attaching to stock-raising and wool-growing that they are rapidly assuming prominence as industries in Escambia. There are 30,000 sheep in the county that are sustained entirely upon the native grasses. The growth of this spontaneous herbage is scarcely retarded by the short winters, and thus the herds of cattle and sheep and goats are sustained almost throughout the year.

Deer are found in some portions of Escambia as well as other species of game.

The principal streams are Conecuh and Escambia Rivers, Murder, Cedar, Burnt Corn and Sizemore Creeks. These are remarkably fine streams of water, affording not only an unceasing supply of water for home and farm consumption, but furnishing a sufficiency for multitudes of manufactories. There sport in these creeks and rivers vast quantities of fresh water fish which are easily captured. The trout is quite a common luxury with the people of Escambia.

The places of importance are Brewton, the county seat, with a population of 2,000, Pollard and Flomaton. Brewton is one of the thriftiest business centers to be met with in the interior of Alabama. It is the thriftiest town on the Louisville & Nashville between Montgomery and Mobile. Besides its large and flourishing mercantile establishments, it has several institutions of learning. Chief among these is Brewton Institute, a school of high grade, and manned with a competent corps of professors. Brewton affords an illustration of the immense wealth which is resident in the adjacent forests of timber. Here are found mammoth lumber mills, and similar plants throughout the county.

The health of the town is greatly enhanced by the prevalence of artesian wells.

Escambia is penetrated by two railroads—the Louisville &

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Nashville, and the southern end of the Pensacola & Selma Railroad. The Pensacola Division of the Louisville & Nashville Line enters the county at Flomaton, where it forms a junction with the main trunk. This gives the county an outlet to Pensacola. Through governmental intervention the Escambia and Conecuh Rivers will be opened for light boats in the future, and, when done, this will largely contribute to the prosperity of the county.

Purchasers of lands will find them ranging from $1.25 to $5 per acre. Near the railroad centers they will command a higher price than that given. A hospitable people, healthful climate, pure water, bounteous, natural luxuries, and cheap lands, are the attractions offered to immigrants in Escambia county.

There are 30,330 acres of government land in the county.

CONECUH COUNTY.

CONECUH was established as a county in 1818. The name is derived from two Indian terms, which, taken together, mean "Caneland," or "Land of Cane," supposed to have been suggested by the beautiful straight cane which grew along the banks of its wide and clear streams when the red man held sway. The early settlers describe the face of the country as having been one of surpassing loveliness before the woodman's axe laid the forests low, and the hands of progressive art displaced the wigwam of the rude children of the woods. The land was radiant with long, waving grass, interspersed with the wild oat and the native peavine, in the midst of which grew the towering forms of monarch pines. At any time could be seen herds of deer and flocks of wild turkeys roving at will over these lands of smiling beauty. The whites first occupied its soil in 1815.

The county has an area of 840 square miles.

Population in 1880, 12,605; population in 1890, 18,594. White, 7,987; colored, 6,607.

Area planted in cotton, 22,510 acres; in corn, 24,224 acres; in oats, 3,324 acres; in rye, 7 acres; in sugar-cane, 267 acres; in

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rice, 121 acres; in sweet potatoes, 652 acres; in tobacco, 1 acre.

Cotton Production—8,167 bales.

Situated in the southern part of the State, about sixty miles from the coast, it is embraced in what is denominated by the State geologist, the "Oak and hickory uplands, with long-leaf pine region," coming direct within the scope of the great timber belt, a large proportion of the half million acres of untilled land being covered with the famous Southern yellow pine, so highly prized in the Northern and European markets for building material. Much of this timber is actually being manufactured into lumber and square timber for these markets, but the supply is practically exhaustless; so that many generations to come will experience no inconvenience by reason of its scarcity.

Besides this, there are large quantities of oak, hickory, ash, poplar, cypress, juniper, magnolia, gum, etc., all suitable for building and manufacturing purposes.

While the deep, sandy loam, characteristic of the pine regions, predominates in its aggregate area, there are large tracts of stiff, red clay and lime soil, eminently adapted to the production of cotton and the other field crops cultivated here, which are being eagerly sought after for farming purposes. This is especially true since the introduction of commercial fertilizers, which, under judicious management, always returns a good profit to the farmer.

In addition to the production of cotton, corn, oats, rice, peas, potatoes, sugar-cane, millet, sorghum, and the native grasses, these soils have been found well adapted to the raising of vegetables. Fruits are easily and abundantly grown, such as apples, pears, quinces, figs, pomegranates, strawberries, rasberries, and walnuts. Pecans have been cultivated with great satisfaction. Every variety of grape known to the South is produced, and it is believed that the crates which are now shipped will soon be multiplied into car-loads.

The LeConte pear has been found to succeed well here, and numerous orchards are being planted, which within a few years may be expected to rival the much-talked of orange groves of Florida for clear profit to the proprietors.

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THE CLIMATE

is mild. We are here removed from the extreme rigors of a Northern winter, and blizzards lose their identity when they come in contact with the warm sea breezes of the gulf. The average temperature for five years, ending December 31st, 1887, from observations taken thrice daily, morning, noon and night, is as follows: January, 49,34; February, 57,26; March, 53,96; April, 70,16 May, 72,35; June, 76,87; July, 78,48; August, 76,71; September, 63,92; October, 57,37; November, 52,58; December, 45,58, Fah. The highest noon average being 86,12, in August.

No section of this or any other State can boast of better health than is enjoyed here.

The few cases of malaria met with, comprising the major portion of disease here prevalent, are confined to limited districts, adjacent to the low lands and water courses, and are rarely of a serious character, generally yielding readily to a system of judicious treatment.

The fatal and dreaded lung disease of more northern latitudes are of rare occurrence, as are also affections of the kidneys. Epidemics are unknown here.

The main line of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad, the great thoroughfare from the North and East to the South and Southwest, runs directly through this county for a distance of thirty miles, with a branch road traversing its western border for about fifteen or twenty more; thus affording facilities for the rapid transportation of its various products at equitable rates.

The prices of land vary according to location and other advanges, but for the most part scarcely more than nominal. Near the railroads and towns good farming land sell anywhere from $2.50 to $25 per acre, the latter figure representing, of course, only a few fancy small farms near towns and villages. Timber lands are worth from $1.25 to $5 per acre, while old waste fields often sell for fifty cents.

The principal streams are Conecuh River, Little Escambia, Murder, Bottle, Burnt Corn, Sepulga, Brush, and Beaver Creeks, all of which are sustained by many valuable tributaries. Some

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of these large streams are bordered by immense swamps, well filled with oak and hickory, the fruit of which sustains, every fall great droves of hogs. Nothing else is needed to prepare them for the slaughter pen and storeroom.

Marl is found existing in portions of the county, as is also mica. A large mica bed exists near Evergreen. In some parts the surface is overlaid with fine specimens of iron ore. Limestone abounds, and the white limestone, which appears in quarries, has been used for three-quarters of a century for building chimneys. It is a rock of snowy whiteness and is inexhaustible. In the southeastern portion of the county is a great cave—Turk's—in which there are valuable deposits of fertilizers.

The places of interest are Evergreen, the county seat, with a population of about 1,200, Castleberry, Gravella, Bellville, Brooklyn, and Repton. The educational and religious advantages at all these points are good. A superior high school for boys and girls is found at Evergreen. A good common-school system exists throughout the county. There is a mineral spring of some local note at Evergreen, and a hotel of repute for Northern visitors in winter.

Conecuh is traversed throughout by the Louisville & Nashville Railroad, and is penetrated also by a portion of the Selma & Pensacola Railroad. The lands penetrated by these lines are of such character as to suggest the profit that would arise from market gardening.

At Castleberry there was, until of late, an extensive turpentine manufactory. A furniture manufactory exists at that point now.

The county has about 32,40 acres of government land, much of which is heavily timbered with yellow pine.

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BUTLER COUNTY.

THE county of Butler was established in 1819. It derived its name from one of the earliest settlers—Captain William Butler.

There is a great diversity of soil and a corresponding variety of productions in the county. Its climate, health, location and resources give promise that it will become one of the leading counties of this great timber section. Its area embraces 800 square miles.

Population in 1880, 19,646; population in 1890, 21,641. White, 11,326; colored, 10,315.

Area planted in cotton, 47,589 acres; in corn, 31,662 acres; in oats, 7,342 acres; in sugar-cane, 338 acres; in rice, 17 acres; in sweet potatoes, 679 acres; in rye, 1 acre; in tobacco, 2 acres.

Cotton Production—18,200 bales.

The general surface of Butler county is rolling with some hills in the west. The lands are beautifully adapted to diversified husbandry. In the northwestern portion the soil is prairie and prolific. Through the middle portions there are red lands whose value is highly prized by the planters of the county. In the southern portion the soil is both red and gray. Along the higher table-lands of Butler are found the sandy soils which belong to all high pine regions; but like the lands of this class throughout the Timber Belt, there is a clay subsoil, of considerable depth, which gives to the deep-rooted crops immense advantage. In the hilly portion of Butler where the highest points are of thin soil, the slopes and valleys are quite productive. There is a considerble mixture of lime with the soil in the creek bottoms. This is due to the washings from the neighboring lime hills.

The soils of the county produce cotton, corn, oats, sugar-cane, rice, barley, rye, peas, peanuts, sweet and Irish potatoes.

No crop raised upon Southern soil can be planted in Butler without receiving an adequate return, provided the seasons are favorable. Many of the lands are fertile, and when they are comparatively thin they are easily fertilized, and where they need such aid, are well calculated to retain the manures. A fact of

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great practical value may be mentioned here as admitting of equal application to every county in the great Timber Belt, viz: In the sections which need the application of fertilizers there are wonderful quantities of pine straw and leaves, which, when thrown into stables and pens, serve to make the best domestic fertilizers. For more than a half century this course has been adopted by planters, and their lands have been kept enriched from year to year. Through a long period of years cotton and corn were almost the exclusive crops; but a marvelous change is now being wrought in the practical industries of the county. The production of oats is now engrossing more attention than formerly. The same is true of rice. Sugar-cane is so easily grown and its yield is so abundant that it is fast becoming one of the staple productions of the county.

Perhaps in no county in the Timber Belt is more attention bestowed upon the orchard than in Butler. Superior apples peaches, pears, and watermelons are produced. Figs thrive in the fence corners and out-of-the-way places, and with no attention the yield is very great. With slight attention, the fig would thrive quite as well here as in any part of the world. The grape has received considerable attention, and the returns from the culture of the vine are excellent. In the town of Greenville, Hon. J. C. Richardson has given considerable attention to the production of fruits, and especially of the different varieties of grapes and pears. The yield is quite large every year and the fruits grow to perfection. Major D. G. Dunklin, of the same place, raises grapes for shipment, from which he derives considerable revenue.

The fields and forests of Butler are overspread with native clovers and grasses, which encourage stock raising. About the center of population great quantities of milk and butter are produced for home consumption and the local markets. Raising beef for distant markets, and wool growing, are now receiving some attention,

Vegetables grow to perfection, and truck farming and market gardening are somewhat engaged in, especially in the neighborhood of Greenville.

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In different sections of Butler county there are splendid forests of timber comprising the several varieties of oak, pine, ash, gum, cedar, poplar, hickory, dogwood, maple, beech, and magnolia. Of the yellow, or long-leaf pine, there are vast districts, and the timber is equal to that of any other section of this Belt. In the northern or prairie region of Butler there are belts of cedar growth as fine as can be obtained in the Union.

The county abounds in excellent water supplies. Springs, wells, and creeks abound in freestone and lime water. The county is somewhat noted for its mineral springs. Butler springs have long been noted for its medicinal waters, and when easier accessibility is had, the springs will come into note. But one of the most remarkable mineral wells is found within three miles of Greenville—McCall's Mineral Well. Its waters are pronounced the "strongest," of the various mineral waters known in America. For dyspepsia and chronic derangement of the urinary organs, and all phases of eruptions, the waters are excellent.

Of the chief streams of the county it may be said that Pine Barren and Cedar Creeks, head in the northwest, while the tributaries of the Sepulga River run through other portions. Pigeon and Panther Creeks are excellent streams of water.

Greenville, the county seat, with a population of 3,500, Georgiana, Garland, Monterey, and Forest Home, are the centers of interest. All have remarkably fine educational advantages.

At Greenville there are three institutions of repute, viz: The Greenville Collegiate Institute, the South Alabama Female Institute, and the Greenville High School. Public schools are located in every township in the county.

GREENVILLE.

Greenville, a flourishing little city of 3,500 inhabitants, is the seat of justice for the county, and is noted far and wide for its pure freestone water, healthful climate, flourishing schools and churches, and refined society. Greenville has an annual trade of over a million dollars, and her citizens pay taxes on $850,000 worth of property. It is the commercial center of an excellent section of farming country, and is destined to be the peer of any

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city in South Alabama. There are several factories and other enterprizes in successful operation, and the future of the town is bright and promising.

There are several deposits of iron ore in different portions of the county, specimens of which have been analyzed and found to contain about 50 per cent of metalic iron. The ore is of the needle variety and could be easily worked. As those deposits are not convenient to the railroad, they have not as yet been properly developed. The deposits of lime-stone in the northwestern portion of the county are immense, and will some day prove very valuable. In the northwestern portion of the county are deposits of phosphate beds. An analysis of the specimens has caused experienced chemists to pronounce them similar to those found in the celebrated phosphate beds of South Carolina.

In addition to the public lands in the county, there are large districts of cheap land belonging to different corporations. Among these may be mentioned the following: The Louisville & Nashville Railroad Company owns 8,800 acres; the Michigan Land Company pays taxes on 10,700 acres; the Milner, Caldwell & Flowers Lumber Company, something over 35,000 acres; the Rocky Creek Lumber Company 8,000 acres; Dunham Lumber Company 23,000 acres, while Judge S. J. Bolling and Joseph Steiner each lays claim to something over 39,000 acres. Several other wealthy men own large tracts of farming lands in different portions of the county.

Some of the leading lumber interests of South Alabama are found in Butler along the line of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad. They are devoted exclusively to the manufacture of pine lumber, which is shipped to the most distant parts of the country. Many other industries, such as gins and water mills abound.

Those desiring lands may secure them in many localities at nominal figures. The present market price extends from $1.50 to $10 per acre. There are in the county 640 acres of public lands subject to homestead entry.

Pleasant and cheap homes are here afforded those desiring to settle. The people are industrious, thrifty and quiet, and immigrants will be well received.

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COVINGTON COUNTY.

ESTABLISHED in 1821, this county took its name from General Leonard W. Covington, of Maryland. It is noted for its streams, grazing lands, and superb region of timber. Like other sections of Alabama, Covington has failed of appreciation, because of its remoteness from lines of transportation.

The development of its abounding resources will follow in the wake of transportation facilities. The county has an area of 1,030 square miles.

Population in 1880, 5,639; population in 1890, 7,536; White, 6,695; colored, 841.

Area planted in cotton, 7,775 acres; in corn, 16,794 acres; in oats, 1,601 acres; in rice, 47 acres; in sugar-cane, 147 acres; in sweet potatoes, 466 acres; in rye, 1 acre; in tobacco, 1 acre.

Cotton Production—2,740 bales.

The entire surface of Covington is, for the most part, level and yet with undulation sufficient in many portions of the county for thorough drainage.

In the northern end of Covington are found the red uplands, which have become justly famous to planters in the adjoining counties. These, however, are not extensive, and for fertile soils the people have to resort to the lands in the bottoms. Lands of more than average quality are found in different districts throughout the county of Covington. Where they have been properly fertilized, the pine uplands have produced well.

It will be remembered by the readers of agricultural journals, that it was on just such level pine lands as those which prevail in Covington County, that Mr. David Dickson had such a wonderful yield in Hancock County, Georgia, in 1868. According to the statement of the *Southern Cultivator* he gathered from two to three bales from each acre, after proper tillage.

The lands are susceptible of a high degree of enrichment by manures, are easily tilled, and capable of producing, not only a great variety of crops, but several in rotation every year. In some instances the lands of Covington county have been made to

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yield from forty to sixty bushels of corn per acre; from thirty to seventy bushels of oats; from forty to eighty bushels of rice, and from one hundred to three hundred bushels potatoes. The best lands in Covington are the mulatto soils and those of a flowery gray. They each have a capital subsoil which begins from ten to sixteen inches from the surface.

The bottom lands, as has been intimated, are of excellent quality. There flourishes upon the lands such farm productions as cotton, corn, oats, rice, sugar-cane, millet (in many varieties), sweet and Irish potatoes, pumpkins, peas and peanuts. Where the land is enriched these grow rapidly, and are easily produced by reason of the general looseness of the soil. Improved implements of agriculture upon these level tracts would prove valuable and remunerative. The productions of the lands have been gathered from the shallowest surface, while the subsoil, but a few inches beneath, has been largely untouched.

Fruits grow in vaieties and profusion. These include melons apples, peaches, grapes, figs, plums, quinces, strawberries, raspberries and pecans. With transportation, these productions would find a ready market, and be a source of great revenue to the county. The Mobile and Girard Railroad now penetrates the county.

The timbers of the county are yellow or long leaf pine, oak, hickory, elm, beech and poplar. The county is noted for its forests of towering pine. Districts of this magnificent timber extend for many miles in all directions through the county. Beneath these lofty pines there flourish the greenest grasses and leguminous plants, which afford superior range for herds of cattle, sheep and goats. Great quantities of lumber are hewn from the forests every season and floated along the principal streams to the markets of the Gulf.

The county has some of the largest and deepest streams known to the southern section of the State. Among these may be named Conecuh, Patsaliga, Sepulga and Yellow Rivers, and Pigeon, Limestone, Five Runs and Forks of Yellow River, besides many others of less value. These great streams are quite serviceable to lumber men during the fall and winter season as furnishing

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the channels of commerce for their superior yellow pine timber. They are also noted for their abundance of fish. With little difficulty superior trout, bream and perch are caught from the streams. As in the forests adjoining, there are many deer still to be found. Rare sport is here afforded, both for hunter and angler. Specimens, both of iron and marl have been found in Covington. The chief pursuits are timbering and farming. Wool-growing is becoming one of the industries of the county. Vast quantities of honey are every year produced.

The county is without transportation, except by means of wagon, to the railroads which penetrate the adjoining counties. The South Alabama Railroad is projected through Covington, and is expected to run via Andalusia to Evergreen, Conecuh county. The Conecuh River is navigable for light boats at certain seasons. They ascend as high as the nearest landing to Andalusia. But for the obstruction in the river, it would be a valuable waterway to this section of Alabama. The points of interest are Andalusia, the county-seat, with a population of 200, Rose Hill, Fairfield, Red Level, Lakeview, and Shirley. The leading schools of the county are at Andalusia, Rose Hill, and Red Level, though the public school system reaches every precinct. Churches, mainly of the Baptist and Methodist denominations prevail, both in the country and the villages.

The prices of land vary from $1 to $5 per acre. Covington county has a larger district of government land than any other in the State there being 30,000 acres.

Viewed as a whole, the water of Covington county is abundant, the climate salubrious, and the health unsurpassed. In addition to its remarkable climate, it has all the other conditions which are conducive to a rapid rotation of crops, and of easy accumulation of the comforts of home. No more inviting region is found in this State.

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CRENSHAW COUNTY.

This county was formed in 1865, and named for Hon. Anderson Crenshaw. It lies in that section of the State toward which much attention is now being turned, because of its varied resources and growing industries. Debarred the enjoyment of railroad privileges, there has not been that spirit of enterprise and energy which is warranted by the varied resources of Crenshaw. The area of the county is 660 square miles.

Population in 1880, 11,727; population 1890, 15,425. White, 11,745; colored, 3,680.

Area planted in cotton, 36,489 acres; in corn, 29,806 acres; in oats, 6,218 acres; in rye, 7; tobacco, 3; in rice, 25 acres; in sugar-cane, 294 acres; in sweet potatoes, 558 acres.

Cotton Production—13,442 bales.

The surface of Crenshaw is undulating. In the northern portion is found a reddish lime land, which is productive, and upon which are seen many of the excellent farms of the county. In the soil here found, are small rounded lumps of brown iron ore. The lands upon the upper surfaces are good, but along the bottoms they increase very much in fertility, having the benefit of the washing of the hills. In the central portion of the county they are decidedly limy. A limestone of considerable purity, and in vast abundance, shows itself along the banks of streams. This has been burnt to advantage, and would assist in the enrichment of adjacent lands if employed for that purpose. Its abundance and richness suggests its commercial value when transportation will justify it. The character of the land lying in southern half of the county differs materially from that lying northward. In this lower portion they are largely pine lands, with all the ruling characteristics which belong to such, interspersed with areas of finer, and stiffer, and richer soils, upon which grow oak and hickory. In the extreme southern end of the county are occasional tracts of red lime land. This land resembles the lime land which is contiguous to the larger streams in the adjacent counties. In

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addition to these lands already named, there are the dark loam and sandy lands which skirt Patsaliga River. Thus, it will be seen that Crenshaw has a diversity of soils, but means exist for making them far more uniform in productiveness than they are at present.

Could the abounding lime of the central of the county be transferred to the limeless pine lands, the result would be most beneficial, especially when these thin surface soils possess such a deep clay foundation.

The lands of the county produce cotton, corn, oats, rye, rice, peas, potatoes, pumpkins, peanuts, and sugar-cane. Remunerative crops of all these productions are annually grown in all parts of the county. The staple products of the county are cotton and corn; but the other productions are taking rank as staples, especially potatoes and sugar-cane. There is an annual increase in the production of these crops. Here, as in the adjoining counties, are found superior pasture lands, which afford nourishment for stock almost throughout the year. Grasses overspread the forests and waste places, and the streams are skirted with cane.

Fruits of different sorts abound, chief among which are peaches, pears, apples, and figs. Vineyards do extremely well, and many luscious grapes are annually grown. Were a market convenient, fruit raising would be profitable.

Wool growing is increasing in its proportions every year. Stock raising is attracting some attention, but the chief pursuit is that of planting. The growth of the forests is pine, oak, hickory, gum, cypress, and poplar. Principal among these is the pine. Extensive forests of this growth overspread almost the entire southern half of Crenshaw. It is scarcely touched in many places, and is silently awaiting the opening of avenues of transportation, that its turpentine and lumber may seek their way to market. Many saw mills, both steam and water, exist in the county ; but the lumber thus manufactured is almost entirely for the home trade.

Principal among the streams are Manack Creek, which heads in the northwestern part of the county, Yellow Water, Conecuh,

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and Patsaliga Rivers. These together with their numerous branches, afford great quantities of water to every part of the county. These streams are supplied with excellent fish.

The points of interest in the county are Rutledge, the county seat, Luverne, with a population of 1,200, Rocky Mount, Honoraville, New Providence, Bullock, Mount Ida, Leon, and Highland Home.

Good schools exist at most of these places, but the most prominent educational interests are found at Rocky Mount, Rutledge, and Highland Home. At the last named point is a school of considerable distinction for both sexes. Churches of the different denominations of Christians abound throughout the county.

For transportation, the people rely mainly upon the Montgomery & Florida Railroad, and the Alabama Midland, which terminates at Luverne. This road is now being rapidly built through this section, and will soon penetrate the heart of the county, thus giving exit to the resources which have been useless to the people by reason of the absence of transportation. Those living in the western portion of the county are accessible to the Louisville & Nashville, and those living in the northern end are easily accessible to the Mobile & Girard.

In this county, as in all others in this region, lands may be had at very moderate figures. Overspread with forests of splendid timber, both of pine and oak, they are destined to be quite valuable, and yet may be bought in some sections for $1 per acre, in others for $2.50, and in others, still, for $5.

There are 2,400 acres of land belonging to the general government in Crenshaw, not yet appropriated.

Vast tracts of land may be purchased at nominal prices, and the people would welcome immigrants of thrifty habits.

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PIKE COUNTY.

THE county of Pike was created in 1821. Its name was given in honor of General Zebulon M. Pike, of New Jersey. It has become one of the most progressive counties in the Timber Belt since the construction of the Mobile & Girard Railway, and the Alabama Midland. Its county-seat, Troy, has been noted, of late years, for the enterprise and thrift of its citizens. By reason of its geographical location it has become, to a large degree, a distributing point to much of the territory lying south.

Pik county has an area of 740 square miles.

Population in 1880, 20,640; population in 1890, 24,423. White, 15,349; colored, 9,074.

Area planted in cotton, 66,625 acres; in corn, 46,480 acres; in oats, 4958 acres; in wheat, 9 acres; in rye, 7 acres; in sugar-cane, 400 acres; in sweet potatoes, 883 acres; in tobacco 1.

Cotton Production, 25,879 bales.

The northern and central portions of Pike are hilly; the remainder of the county is largely of a level surface. The land is quite varied in its fertility. Along the sandy ridges which prevail in different portions of Pike, the lands are thin, with an accompanying clay foundation of red or yellow.

In the eastern part is seen the formation of the famous Chunnenuggee ride. Upon the topmost lands of this ridge there is a surface of sand, but the slopes are of a limy character and have a lasting and productive soil. In the bottoms, between these lime hills, the lands are of the best character. Their productive virtues will be inexhaustible for many years to come. South of this Chunnenuggee formation there is a strip of lime country. From the city of Troy southward a number of miles, there is a stiff lime and clay soil of wonderful fertility, while still further south the lands grow thinner and more sandy, and are overgrown by the finest pine timber. Throughout this southern section of the county there is a prevalence of pine forests with occasional interspersion of oak and hickory lands. Where these

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last-named lands appear they are highly appreciated for their productive qualities.

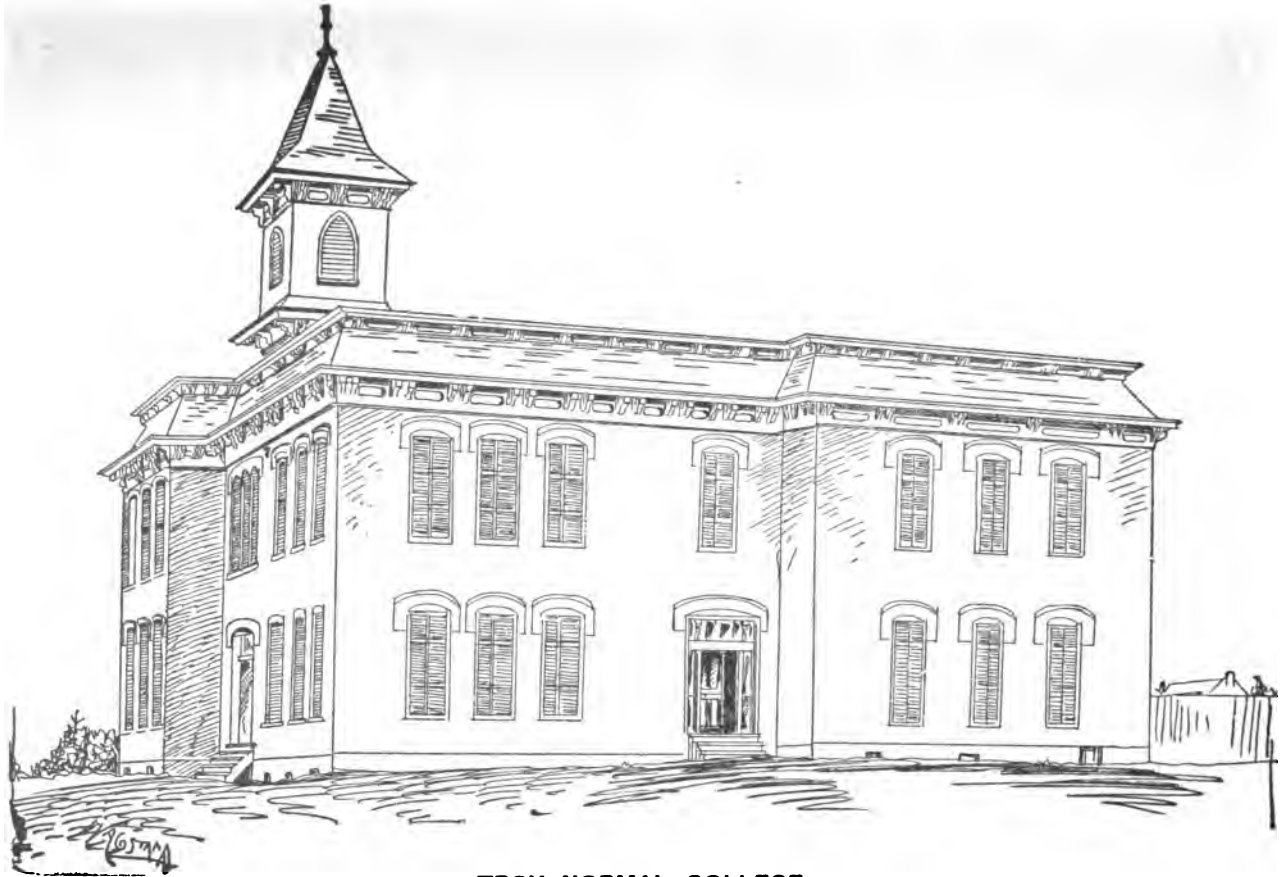
In the southeastern portion of the county there are many superior farming lands. They are of a stiff, clayey nature, but are much prized for their fertilty. Than this there is not a better farming section in the whole county. In the western and central portions of Pike there are occurrences of pure limestone in sufficient quantities to supply the evident deficiency in the soils of the pine lands. Judiciously distributed over the surface of the thin pine soils, their valuation would be greatly enhanced.

The most of the lands that can be used in Pike for farming purposes lie quite favorably for enrichment with fertilizers. This fact has encouraged the importation of many fertilizers into the county. The annual sales of these manures at Troy are immense. This gives us a bird's eye view of the county of Pike and of its varied soils. Upon these lands are generally grown corn, cotton, oats, wheat, rye, rice, sorghum, sugar-cane, and potatoes. Large crops of peas and peanuts are also produced. The county has long ranked among the foremost in the State in its capacity to produce sweet potatoes and the Cuban sugar-cane.

Both these crops thrive wonderfully well. These soils produce as fruits, apples, peaches, plums, pears, grapes, quinces, figs and pomegranates, together with melons, cantaloupes, raspberries and strawberries. To visit Troy during the fruit season is to witness the luxuries produced in orchard and garden alike in the surrounding country.

There is a perceptible progress in the improvement of the stock of the county, especially about the centers of interest. This is promoting the raising of grasses and clovers. More attention is gradually being given to the raising of swine. The timbers of the forests of Pike are oak, hickory, elm, poplar, cypress, beech and pine. Of the last named there are very great forests, valuable alike for its flammable qualities and its turpentine and lumber. Mills for the manufacture of lumber are found in every part of the county. Pike is drained through two main streams and their tributaries. These are the Conecuh and Pea Rivers.

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TROY NORMAL COLLEGE.

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Many very fine branches and creeks penetrate the county, and seek their outlet through these principal channels. The waters are wonderfully clear, the bottoms of the streams being often overspread with a sand of snowy whiteness, and again with beautiful pebbles. Many fine fish are caught from these streams. They are also used, as in the adjoining counties, for floating the massive pine timbers to the markets on the Gulf.

The centers of interest in Pike are Troy, a beautiful little city of 5,000, Brundidge and Orion. These are important social centers, and are proud of their educational facilities. Troy has a collegiate institute, besides other schools of merit A normal college has been established there. A good common school system reaches every portion of the county. Troy is a point of unusual importance because of its relation to the surrounding region of country. Troy has become an important distributing center. It serves as a valuable cotton market, and receives a considerable quantity of this staple every season.

Immigrants will be able to purchase lands in Pike county for sums ranging from $1.50 to $10 per acre. Government lands, subject to entry, are found in the county. Men seeking homes will be welcomed to Pike, and so will capitalists seeking investments. The people are mostly of a progressive spirit, and are eager to see their unpopulated districts peopled with men of pluck and enterprise.

Government land to the extent of 1,040 acres exist in the county.

COFFEE COUNTY.

CREATED in 1841, this county took its name from that of General John Coffee. It is highly favored with respect to its climate and superior healthfulness. It lies in the heart of the great Timber Belt, and all the characteristics which belong to that beautiful region are found existing here—extensive domains of forests of pine, with here and there a stream of crystal clearness, and carpeted throughout with pastures of perennial

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green; with a slightly undulating surface, affording lands of varying fertility, and with conditions of soil favorable alike to the pursuits of agriculture, horticulture and stock-raising. Remote from the great arteries of commerce and centers of trade, its attractions are unknown; but it is questionable whether a more populous section can be found in Alabama than just here when the intrinsic worth of this region shall have become known. Its area comprises 700 square miles.

Population in 1880, 8,119; population in 1890, 12,170. White 10,237; colored, 1,933.

Area planted in cotton, 35,449 acres; in corn, 28,787; in oats 4,665 acres; in rye, 7 acres; in wheat, 3 acres; in rice, 21 acres; in sugar cane, 254 acres; in sweet potatoes, 474 acres; in tobacco, 3 acres.

Cotton Production—11,791 bales.

In the main, the surface of Coffee county is level; but in the northern portion it is broken and hilly. The northern and southern portions differ very much in this respect—the southern being quite level. Above Elba, the county-seat, there are what are locally called "the red clay hills," which, together with the intervening bottoms, are fairly productive. Going southward from the point indicated, one gets a view of the most magnificent forests of yellow pine upon the globe. It is impossible to estimate the wealth treasured up in these splendid trees, the forests of which abound for many miles throughout the county of Coffee. As yet, the lands over these vast ranges are used for little less than grazing purposes. Subsoil tillage will eventually place them among the most attractive agricultural lands in Alabama. At present, they are the haunts of extensive herds of cattle and sheep. The richest pasturage prevails here almost throughout the year. This is true of the pine districts.

Turning our attention to other qualities of soil, we find it in cultivation and producing quite readily. Previous to this, the farming interests of the county were restricted to the northern portions, but within the last two or three years a thrifty class of farmers have entered more than 40,000 acres of land in the southern part, and are rapidly improving the soil. The productions of

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the county are corn, cotton, oats, rye, rice, potatoes (sweet and Irish), sugar-cane.

Like those of the surrounding counties, the people of Coffee are coming more and more to recognize the merits of the Cuban sugar-cane. Its production is easy and renumerative.

Fruits are readily produced here. Apples, pears, peaches, plums, quinces, and pomegranates are the principal fruits. The woods abound in wild fruits for man and beast. Grapes rapidly attain perfection, and with proper cultivation will become remunerative.

A green sand marl has been observed at Kimneey's mill, south of Elba, but its extent has not yet been ascertained.

The timbers of the county are oak, hickory, ash, beech, poplar, and pine. The northeastern part of the county is heavily timbered with oak, hickory and ash. The interior of the county is usually covered with the forests of yellow pine.

The chief industries of Coffee are farming, timbering, and stock raising. Wool growing has long been an important branch of business.

The principal streams are Pea River, and White Water, Big Bluff, and Double Bridge creeks. Fish of superior quality abound in these streams. Branches of perpetual flow, traverse the whole face of the country. Mineral springs also exist.

Elba, the county seat, with a population of 600, Victoria, Clintonville, and Brannon are the points of interest.

School facilities are moderately good, and religious advantages are excellent.

The county is without river or railroad transportation, and relies mainly upon Troy, in the adjoining county of Pike, as a market, and as the nearest accessible point of transportation by rail. Railroads have been projected through the county, and it is believed that at no remote period, the county will have its slumbering resources recognized by reason of the existence of these great agencies of development.

Lands may be purchased for $1 and $3 per acre.

Many of the most valuable lands of Coffee belong to the government, and may be entered; of these there are 3,560 acres.

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The people of the county are eager to have immigrants settle in their midst and assist in its development.

GENEVA COUNTY.

THE county of Geneva was formed in 1868. It is one of the most progressive counties in this portion of the State. Capital and enterprise have been won to it, and its lands are being rapidly occupied. Long remote from important lines of transportation, it now enjoys facilities which enable its numberless resources to find their way easily to market. The wide-awake spirit which prevails among the people of Geneva, may be inferred from the rapid increase of population within the last four years. The figures given below are those taken from the census report of 1870 and 1880; but since the last National census, the population has more than doubled, being in 1884, 9,557. Attention is now called more minutely to its resources and advantages. It has an area of 648 square miles.

Population in 1880, 4,342; population 1890, 10,690. White, 9,664; colored 1,026.

Area planted in cotton, 21,133 acres; in corn, 21,154 acres; in oats, 2,084 acres; in sugar-cane, 118 acres; in rice, 54 acres; in sweet potatoes, 350 acres; in rye, 2 acres; tobacco, 1 acre.

Cotton Production—7,158 bales.

The surface of the county is usually level. The lands are generally of a light, sandy loam. In some sections of the county they are stiff, and produce with ease under favorable auspices.

The yield never fails to be generous where the lands are aided by fertilizers and judiciously cultivated. In the eastern part of the county, the lands are of a superior quality, being fine lime soil. In the southeastern portion, where Geneva county comes in contact with the Florida line, there are red lime lands, the reputation of which is great, not only in this, but in a number of other counties of the Timber Belt.

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Here, as elsewhere, throughout this timber region, there is the possible variety in the soils. As is to be expected, there is a prevalence of yellow pine forests in Geneva county, and here, as in other counties, the surface contains a thin, sandy soil, which is based upon a deep foundation of clay. But cultivation has proved that these lands may be made quite valuable for farming purposes. Where the deficiencies of plant-foot occur in the soil, all that is needed is to supply them with proper fertilizers, and then with diligent culture the yield is inevitable, and always in proportion to the enrichment and cultivation. In the more fertile sections, of course, this is not demanded. Until a few years past, the production of cotton in this country had received but slight attention, the chief pursuits of the people being the lumber business and stock-raising. But within the last few years, cotton has been successfully raised, and the value of the lands has been greatly enchanced by the use of domestic and commercial fertilizers. It is not an uncommon occurrence to raise a bale of cotton to two acres. The soils at an early season are warm and well drained, resulting in speedy germination, and consequent fruitage. The advantages offered by Geneva, have served to attract many immigrants from other counties.

In the eastern part of the county along the Chipola River, there prevail lime lands that are noted for their fertility.

The productions are, cotton, corn, peas, oats, sweet potatoes, and peanuts. All these thrive quite readily. Vegetables of all kinds are easily produced. The chief fruits grown are, melons, peaches, figs, and grapes. The efforts made to produce these, have been the most encouraging possible.

The trees are largely those of yellow pine, while there are also oaks, hickory, poplar, and beech. The manufacture of the pines into lumber for shipment, is a growing branch of business. Large quantities of logs are floated down the waters of the principal streams to markets further south. The manufacture of turpentine is also a pursuit, the proportions of which are constantly increasing.

The streams of the county are the Choctawhatchee, Chipola, and Pea Rivers, and Bear, Big, Spring, Wright's, Plates's, Pitt-

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man's, Martin's, Hurricane, Double Bridges, Rocky, Providence, Wilkerson's, Beaver-Dam, Sandy, Flat, and Comer Creeks. These are valuable streams, and afford an immense water power. From these streams, are caught many excellent fish.

Transportation is afforded the county by steamers upon the Choctawhatchee River, which ascend as high as Geneva and operates in connection with the trains upon the Pensacola & Atlantic Railroad. This affords a valuable outlet of commerce to the people of Geneva, and has been the occasion of much of the progress which has marked the history of the county in the immediate past.

Cheap and expeditious transportation is thus afforded the people of the entire county. Fortunately, the Choctawhatchee River penetrates the very center of the county. With slight improvement, Pea river, which traverses the county in the west, might be made valuable as a medium of transportation. Many valuable products, such as honey and wool, would become sources of great revenue, with increased transportation. The census of 1880, places the county of Geneva in advance of every other in the State, in sheep-raising.

There is reason to believe that phosphate deposits exist in the county.

Coffee Springs, ten miles north of Geneva, is quite a watering resort, and is destined to become more so because of the curative powers of the waters.

Geneva, Millville and Coffee Springs are the points of interest; the first-named is the seat of justice of the county.

Schools are moderately good and are annually improving. Churches of the Baptist and Methodist denominations principally, exist.

Lands may be had as low as $1 and $3 per acre. Vast quantities of public or government land are found in Geneva, there being 17,040 acres. Rare inducements for investments or for settlements are found in this young and growing county. The people are of a progressive spirit and will cordially welcome to the county men of limited means who are seeking cheap

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and pleasant homes, as they will the capitalist with ampler resources who desires to make a profitable investment.

DALE COUNTY.

THIS county was organized in 1854, and named in honor of General Samuel Dale. It is one of the counties of the State in which there were manufactories prior to the war. Its people have long been noted for their sobriety and progressiveness, and, in the centers of interest, for their intelligence. Possessing a varied soil, genial climate, healthful atmosphere, abounding resources of water, rich pasture lands and broad forests of pine, Dale county is the peer of any other section in this portion of Alabama. It has an area of 650 square miles.

Population in 1880, 12,667; population in 1890, 17,225. White, 13,867; colored, 3,358.

Area planted in cotton, 46,885 acres; in corn, 41,577 acres; in oats, 7,953 acres; in wheat, 59 acres; in rye, 364 acres; in rice, 49 acres; in sugar-cane, 373 acres; in sweet potatoes, 872 acres; in tobacco, 9 acres.

Cotton Production—16,259 bales.

The face of the country is, for the most part, level; but some difference exists between the sections north and south, as these are divided, the one from the other, by the Choctawhatchee River. The portion of Dale lying north of this stream is rolling, while that lying south is more level, and, in some portions, quite so. In the northern portion the soils are mostly of a light, loamy nature; in the southern, where the pine forests predominate, the soils are thin and sandy, with a substratum of clay. The soils of the entire county embrace those of red, clayey loam, gray bottom soil, and sandy soils. The most desirable lands for tillage purposes are the red loams, which embrace about one-tenth of those now in cultivation. Valuable tracts of this land prevail in different sections of the county. The creek and river bottoms are also

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productive, especially those adjacent to the Choctawhatchee River.

The lands of the county produce cotton, corn, oats, peas, rice, rye, sugar-cane, peanuts and sorghum. Some of these are extensively grown, and others, most notably sugar-cane, are attracting greater attention year after year. Vegetables and grasses are grown also in vast abundance. The lands are generous in their yield of most of the necessaries, and many of the luxuries of life.

Peaches, pears, grapes and figs thrive, and, with attention, do remarkably well. Through the broad forests of Dale there grow luxuriant grasses and plants for herds, and are of great public value for browsing purposes.

Beef marketing and wool growing are gradually assuming the proportions of thrifty industries. Large quantities of honey, of a superior quality, is annually gathered; but in the absence of transportation is either disposed of in the local markets or consumed at home. North of the Choctawhatchee River the trees of the forset embrace the oak, hickory, poplar, beech, sweet gum, and chestnut; south of the river are the extensive regions of yellow pine. Much of the last-named growth is hewn and rafted to market, while more still is sawn into lumber. Much turpentine is also gathered.

Ozark, the county-seat, with a population of several hundred, Clopton, Newton, Daleville, and Echo are the principal towns. There are good schools and churches at all these points. The county is drained by the Choctawhatchee and its numerous tributaries. It is abundantly supplied with water throughout. Upon many of these streams there are thrifty lumber-mills. At Newton there is a cotton and woolen factory, which was established many years ago, and has served many important ends in that portion of the State. The county is penetrated by the Alabama Midland Railroad which has given new life to that portion of the State. Numerous industries are springing up at the different centers of population. There is a fertilizer factory at Ozark.

The prices of land extend from $1 to $10 per acre. The county has an industrious agricultural population that would readily greet settlers and investors seeking homes and locations

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for business. No doubt these lands will attract great attention within a few years, because of the vast abundance of yellow pine timber which they contain. Rare bargains can now be had by those seeking profitable investments in lands and real estate. Much of the land is public and may be entered under the homestead act. Of this there are 3,680 acres.

HENRY COUNTY.

HENRY county was created the same year that Alabama became a State—1819. It derived its name from that of the great Virginia orator—Patrick Henry. It lies in the extreme southeastern corner of the State, having Georgia, from which it is separated by the Chattahoochee River, on the east, and Florida on the south.

It is one of the most desirable sections of this latitude, being wonderfully healthy and in such position as that its climate is softened in winter and refreshed in summer by the sea breezes from the Gulf of Mexico. Many persons have left the counties above and removed to Henry because of its delightful climate. Free from the heavy moisture of the atmosphere, which is frequently true of regions adjacent to the coast, and having a dry, healthful climate, it is peculiarly suited to the invalid of more northern sections. Perhaps no portion of the Union affords a drier and healthier climate for consumptives than that found in this highly-favored region. Usually the elevation here is too great for the fogs to ascend and pure springs, sandy soil, and bracing winter atmosphere furnish all the avenues to health that could be desired. Here also are to be found the most favorable haunts for hunting and field sports, the forests being alive with partridges, wild turkeys, deer, and other game.

Henry county has an area of 1,000 square miles.

Population in 1880, 18,761; population in 1890, 24,847. White, 16,038; colored, 8,809.

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Area planted in cotton, 69,880 acres; in corn, 55,324 acres; in oats, 6,820 acres; in rye, 73 acres; in wheat, 193 acres; in tobacco, 3 acres; in rice, 25 acres; in sugar-cane, 671 acres; in sweet potatoes, 1,266 acres.

Cotton Production—23,738 bales.

The upper part of Henry county is broken and rolling; the lower or southern portion is level. In the northern end of the county, the soil is of a light, sandy loam, and is very productive. In the southern portion the sandy soils prevail, and comparatively level pine woods constitute the landscape very generally. Along the Choctawhatchee River there is a dark mulatto soil which is quite valuable for farming purposes. There is also a variety of yellow loam upland soils which are much esteemed by the planter. In the southwestern corner of the county, in the drainage basin of Big Creek, there is a considerable body of red lime lands of great productive powers.

The field productions are cotton, corn, oats, rye, rice, potatoes, sugar-cane, field peas and peanuts. The soils respond most liberally to a generous use of fertilizers upon the higher and thinner lands. Very early crops are generally produced, because of the warmth of the soil.

Such fruits as peaches, figs, pears, raspberries and strawberries are quite thrifty. No section excels this in the production of grapes. More attention is now being given these home luxuries than ever before.

There is a perceptible improvement in the stock of the county, and this is giving rise to the more careful production of domestic grasses. Over the commons and old fields, and through the forests of Henry there grow luxuriantly the finest grasses for grazing purposes. This fact, taken in connection with the water supplies which flow through the county in every direction, indicates its desirableness for the pursuit of stock-raising. Wool-growing has received considerable attention.

The lumber and timber interests have been, and are still, very great in the county. Such industries as saw mills abound in different portions of the county, and especially in or about the places of interest. Besides pine in great abundance, there are found in the forests of Henry such growths as hickory, oak, ash,

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walnut, sweet gum, bay, beech, etc. These are usually found in the uncleared bottoms, in the swamps, or along the banks of streams.

The county is watered by the Chattahoochee (which separates it from Georgia) and Choctawhatchee Rivers, and the Yataabba, Emersee, Omanussee, Reedy, Big, Bryan's and Hutchison Creeks. The water supply is unlimited, the streams being of a beautiful clearness and well stocked with superb fish.

Within the last few years there has been remarkable development in the county of Henry awakened by the construction of the Alabama Midland Railroad, and the extension of the Georgia Central to the opposite side of the river at Columbia.

Other roads are in contemplation.

The chief towns of Henry are Abbeville, the county-seat, with a population of 800, Dothan, with a population of 1,500, Columbia, Gordon, Headland, and Lawrenceville. Good schools exist at all these centers of interest. An agricultural school of some note exists at Abbeville. It is a branch of the Agricultual and Mechanical College at Auburn. An educational system prevails throughout the county and is equally accessible to all classes.

Churches mainly of the Baptist and Methodist denominations prevail throughout the county.

Lands vary in valuation from $1 to $10 per acre. Of these there are a great many in Henry county, being 6,620 acres.

Eager to assist and to be assisted in promoting the prosperity of the county, the people of Henry are favorable to the settlement of an industrious and thrifty folk in their midst. We have noted the delightful and healthful climate, the varied land, and divers resources of the county, and from these can readily be inferred the possibility of such a section. Regarding these, let the seekers of homes and capitalists alike determine whether a safer or more profitable investment can be made than in Henry county.

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CONCLUSION.

NO one who has followed the Author of this little treatise from section to section of this great and growing Commonwealth can be otherwise impressed than that Alabama is remarkable both in the extent and diversity of her resources of wealth. Her fertile fields, deep and numerous water-ways, charming climate, vast forests of timber, and varied and abounding mineral wealth place her, in some respects, in advance of any other State of the American Union. To place all these elements of wealth in proper order is the design of this little book.

It is hoped that the systematic arrangement and the sharply drawn lines between the several divisions of the State, and the minute description of each county, together with the comprehensive chapters upon the river-ways, the healthfulness, and the educational system of the State, warrant the claim set forth in the title of the work as the IMMIGRANT'S AND CAPITALIST'S GUIDE-BOOK TO ALABAMA.

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HEALTHFULNESS OF ALABAMA.

TOPOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND MORTALITY STATISTICS.

BY R. D. WEBB, M. D., BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

In an inquiry into the healthfulness of a given region, there are three factors which require examination.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY:

a Surface Features.
b Character of Soils.
c Watersheds and Drainage.
d Flora (amount of vegetable matter.)

II.—CLIMATE:

a Temperature.
b Rainfall.
c Atmospheric Moisture.

III.—MORTALITY STATISTICS.

TO study properly the topography of a region which is largely influenced by the character of its geological formations, we must look at the geology of the region under examination; not so much in the detail of its separate rocks and strata as in the manner in which these geological characteristics were impressed upon it.

In order to do this intelligibly in regard to Alabama, it will be necessary to give, briefly, an account of the geological eras through which it has passed in taking its present features.

Long years ago, Alabama, with the adjoining parts of Tennessee, Mississippi, and Louisiana, was a gulf, or arm of the sea.

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At that time what is now the Gulf of Mexico, had its litteral line as far north as Cairo, Illinois, and the mouth of the Mississippi River was probably at that point. This is evident to the most casual observations of the uninitiated in geological science, as the marine shells and fossil casts, everywhere found over this region, testify.

It is generally admitted that our planet was at one time a molten mass, "without form and void," which, in lapse of time, has gradually cooled, forming a crust or shell, enclosing the still semi-molten internal mass. As this cooling proceeded, the globe became smaller, and in places the crust fell in and took a lower level. Into these lower places the waters were collected, forming oceans, seas, and lakes. This is well described in Genesis i, 9: "Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear."

This was the era in which, as stated above, Alabama was covered by an arm of the sea. The latter part of this era is known to geologists as the carboniferous period, when the earth was covered with dense forests, which grew luxuriantly in the moist, carboniferous air, and the marshy lands were filled with cold-blooded reptiles of huge size, which could breathe this carboniferous air. In this condition the earth remained for untold years, during which time the stratified rocks were deposited at the bottom of the seas, and vast accumulations of vegetable debris (coal measures) were collected in the lakes and lagoons which abounded at that time.

At the close of this carboniferous period, what is known as the Appalachian revolution occurred; by which the great Appalachian chain of mountains (Alleghany, Blue Ridge, and Cumberland ranges) was elevated above the surface of the water. The extension of this chain into Alabama is seen in Lookout, Red and Sand Mountains. It enters the State at its northeast corner, and runs in a southwest direction to Talladega, Centreville, and Jonesboro.

By this geological revolution the face of the country entirely changed, and the shore line of this arm of the sea rolled southward to the northern border of the cretaceous formation, on a line passing east and west through the State from near

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Columbus (Lat. 32° 25') on the Georgia line, by Wetumpka and Centreville to Tuscaloosa, and thence veering northwest through Pickens and Lamar counties, and leaving the State on the west near the thirty-fourth parallel of latitude. By this movement all that portion of the State north of this line was elevated to an average of 500 to 800 feet, and in some places as high as 2,500 feet above the sea level.

The central axis of the upheaval was in a southwestern direction, entering the State near its northeast corner and extending to Jonesboro. By the folding or crimping together of the different strata of the silurian, devonian, and carboniferous rocks, those clinal and anticlinal axes were formed, which mark the course of the valleys and ridges of this section. The ridges are Lookout, Red, Raccoon, and Sand Mountains; and the valleys are Brown's, on the west (a continuation of Sequatchie Valley in Tennessee), and Coosa Valley, on the east, with the intervening valleys of Jones', Roup's Will's, and Murphree's.

This upheaval, by which the Appalachain chain was elevated, was probably at first sudden, but was afterward continued more gradually, or, at least, periodically, and consumed a long period of years before the Tertiary sea finally receded to its present shoreline of the Gulf of Mexico, leaving as dry land the southern half of the State.

By this gradual upheaval, the cretaceous formation (rotten limestone) was elevated, the strata retaining nearly a horizotal position; and by its disintegration, and mixing with vegetable matter, was formed that undulating plateau of fertile prairie soil, known as the "Black Bet." This is from fifty to sixty miles wide, its northern line entering the State in the northwestern part of Pickens county (Lat. 34°) and extending in a semi-circular direction around the border of the Appalachian elevation, entirely across the State to the Georgia line, near Columbus (Lat. 32° 25').

This elevating process continued, and the Tertiary sea rolled southward until the entire southern part of the State (Tertiary) was raised above the sea level, and the shoreline receded to its present position of the Gulf coast. This seems to have been without any decided axial lines of elevation, the Chunnenuggee

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ridge, which extends across the State from east to west, nearly on the parallel 32° 15', being the only exception, and giving the only hills of any importance south of the southern line of the Appalachian elevation.

The receding waters which followed this upheaval, and the glacial avalanche which swept down from the north, covering all the western and middle part of the State with "drift" of pebbles, sand, and clay, collecting in the lower levels or valleys, marked out the channels of the rivers and creeks and left the surface, by their evading action in its present undulating condition.

By these receding waters was also formed the Quartenrary belt of alluvial formation on the Gulf coast. This is so small, only a narrow strip on the Gulf coast and Mobile bay, that it exerts no material influence upon the sanitary condition of the State, and hence will receive no further special notice.

The physical problem here presented is a little complex at first view, but by a little attention to the principles of geology it will be plain enough; and it is the only method by which we can get a comprehensive and correct view of the physical features of the State.

Corresponding with these geological changes the State is naturally divided into five sections, viz:

1. Level pine lands (Tertiary), in southern part.
2. Black prairie lands (secondary cretaceous), just north of the pine lands.
3. Red clay lands (metamorphic), in eastern part.
4. Central mountainous (primary and carboniferous).
5. Tennessee basin (sub-carboniferous).

Let us now, more in detail, refer to the most striking features of each of these sections. Commencing on the south we have:

1. *The Level Pine Lands*, which extend across the State from east to west, and north from the Gulf on the western border 130 miles, and about forty miles in the eastern part, where Florida projects above the line of the Gulf coast.

This entire region is level, or gently undulating, having the character of hilly only where it is encroached upon by the Chunnenuggee ridge referred to above. It is traversed by the Bigbee and Alabama Rivers, forming by their junction fifty miles

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above Mobile, the Mobile River, and by numerous perennial creeks flowing into these rivers on the Gulf, some of which are of considerable size. The water of these smaller streams is clear and almost pure freestone.

It is conveniently divided into two sub-sections of about equal areas—the "Level Long-leaf" and "Hilly Long-leaf Pine" sections. The first is the southern part, and, with the exception of the immediate valleys of the rivers and larger creeks, is covered with long-leaf pine forests, interspersed with a few scrubby oaks. The surface is level or gently undulating. The latter is more hilly, especially toward its northern border, where it is encroached upon by the Chunnenuggee ridge. This also has a principal growth of long-leaf pine, but liberally interspersed with oak, hickory, gum, maple, ash and a few short-leaf pines. In the southern part the river bottoms and larger creeks have a growth of cypress, white oak, gum and maple, frequently covered with long, gray moss, while in the more northern parts on some of the creeks are beautiful groves of magnolia grandiflora. Some of these, as on the Alamuchie Creek in South Sumter, grow to the height of 120 feet, with a diameter of three feet, and with their shiny, evergreen leaves and magnificent white blooms, form a striking feature in the forest scenery.

Lying immediately north of this sandy-pine region we have a narrow strip, three to four miles wide, of barren, "flat woods," or "post oak," extending around the southern border of the prairie lands. It has a stiff, compact, grayish soil, the result of the disintegration of the post-oak clay, which, before exposure to the air, is of a creamy white color. It is covered throughout with a growth of post-oak, sparsely intermingled with red oak and hickory. It is badly watered, difficult to cultivate, and, except where mixed with the lime of the prairie soil, has very little fertility. Hence, it is thinly inhabited and will not require further notice as bearing upon the health of the State.

2. *The Prairie Region* (cretaceous, rotten lime) or "Black Belt," immediately north of this Post-oak Belt, extends across the State from east to west. It is about seventy miles broad on the western border of the State, and gradually diminishes to forty-five miles in the eastern part. The soil is the result of the

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disintegration of the rotten limestone, which everywhere underlies the surface. It is a calcareous loam, with but little sand, and its virgin state had an abundance of vegetable mould, which renders it very fertile. This section, as might be inferred from the name, "Prairie," is not an open, treeless region.

Occasionally we meet with open, or "bald prairies," a few of them covering hundreds of acres; but the soil generally is densely covered with red and white oak, hickory, elm, walnut, cherry, gum, poplar, maple, and cedar, with an undergrowth of plum, haw, and dogwood.

This section may be described as an elevated, undulating plateau, its average elevation above the sea-level being about 150 feet, but occasionally rising to 300 feet. In a few places it has, in small areas, deposited on the surface the sand and clay of the "drift" period, which give small areas of sandy-loam soils. It is traversed by the Bigbee, Warrior, Alabama, and Cahaba Rivers in their course to the Gulf, and by many creeks, which, for the most part, are dry in the fall. The only exception to this is when these creeks have their source in the sandy hills of the drift deposit.

3. *The Red-clay Lands* in the eastern part of the State.—The metamorphic rocks protrude from Georgia into Alabama on its eastern border, forming a triangular section, extending from near Columbus, Georgia, (Lat. 32° 25'), with the State line nearly to parallel 34°, and thence southwest, following the direction of the Selma, Rome & Dalton Railroad, to about ten miles beyond the Coosa River, and thence, southeast, with the Coosa to Wetumpka, thence, southeast, to the Georgia line. This section embraces Cleburne, Randolph, Clay, Coosa, Tallapoosa, Chambers, Elmore, and Lee counties. It may be described as a roughly undulating region, in some parts, as on the northwest; and on the southwest, as it approaches the Chunnenuggee ridge, as hilly, often rising from four to five hundred feet above sea-level. It is a well-drained region, with an argillaceous soil of red clay, but with sufficient sand to render the subsoil drainage good.

4. *Central Mountainous Region.*—This section of the State is more extended and has a more diversified surface, and hence, less easily described. It includes all that section of the State north

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of the prairie belt on the western part, and the red clay lands on the eastern part, to the Tennessee basin. Thus it embraces the mountain ranges and their intervening valleys, entering the State at its northeastern corner and running southwest to Jonesboro, Centreville, and Talladega, with the Coosa valley and its outlying ridges, on the east of this mountain axis, and the Warrior coal-fields on its west, nearly to the Mississippi line; and also a section of short-leaf pine upland, to the south and west of these, embracing the counties of Tuscaloosa, Pickens, Marion, Lamar and Fayette. This region, except the southern part, Tuscaloosa and Pickens counties, is elevated on an average 600 to 800 feet above the sea-level, and is throughout roughly hilly, with intervening valleys; and, occasionally, as on Lookout and Blue Mountains, rising 2,000 to 2,500 feet above sea-level. The soil of the short-leaf pine section is sandy and the surface hilly, and covered in many parts with sandy and gravelly drift. The drainage, both surface and subsoil is good.

The other portions of this region have good surface drainage, but in its many valleys the stiff, compact, calcareous-loamy soil does not admit of good subsoil drainage. The valleys themselves although six to eight hundred feet above sea-level, are relatively low, since they are surrounded on all sides by elevated hills, and here we have, to a great extent, the same sanitary environments that we have in low places. To this fact, perhaps, are due the greater amount of consumption in this elevated mountain region, as we shall hereafter see, than in other parts of the State. And hence, too, as most of the inhabitants live in these valleys, the fact that here also is to be found a greater amount of typhoid fever, and continued malarial or mountain fever than in other parts of the State.

5. The remaining portion of the State is the Tennessee Valley, or Tennessee basin. This is about fifty miles wide and a hundred miles long, bounded on the north by Tennessee, on the east by the elevated escarpments of Brown's Valley; on the south by the ridge running west from Sand Mountain through the counties of Morgan, Lawrence and Franklin; and west by Mississippi.

The Tennessee River entering this basin at its southeast corner, near Guntersville, runs diagonally through it in a north-

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westerly direction, dividing it into northern and southern parts. These two parts are quite similar, each consisting of the highlands, the parts remote from the river, and the lowlands or Tennessee Valley proper. From these highlands or barrens numerous creeks arise, and run, those on the north side of the river, south, and those on the south side, north, into the Tennessee River.

The soil on these highlands is silicious, and, with numerous creeks, affords good surface and subsoil drainage. The valley proper, however, which is more level, with a loamy soil, is not so well drained; and here, too, as in the valleys of the central mountain region, though elevated 600 to 800 feet above sea-level, we have the surroundings of lowlands, and, consequently, malarial fevers.

Also, in this valley, as we shall see when we examine the mortality statistics, consumption prevails to a much greater extent than in the middle and southern parts of the State; and to this fact, coupled with the prevalence of malarial fever in the Tennessee Valley, is due the higer rate of mortality in this section, as compared with other sections of the State. This will be more fully brought out when I speak of mortality statistics.

WATERSHEDS.

Alabama, when viewed as a whole, forms an ascending plain, commencing at the sea level on the Gulf coast and rising in its northern and northeastern sections to an elevation of twelve to fifteen hundred feet. The Appalachian upheaval, while having a general southwest axis, in this State, had also a secondary westward axis, commencing on the west side of Sand Mountain, near Guntersville, in Marshall county, running west along the northern borders of Morgan and Lawrence, veering southwest into Franklin county.

In Marshall county this ridge, or divide, which separates the State into its two watersheds—northern and southern—is about 675 feet above the level of the surrounding country, and gradually diminishes in height to 275 feet in Franklin, and thence westward forms the undulating hills of northwest Mississippi, in which the headwaters of the Bigbee find their source. That portion of the

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State, about fifty miles wide, north of this divide, drained by the Tennessee River and its tributaries, is known as the Tennessee Basin, or Northern Watershed.

The Tennessee River coming down the Sequatchie Valley from Tennessee, enters Alabama near its northeast corner and runs in a southwest direction along Brown's Valley (a continuation of the Sequatchie Valley) about fifty miles to Guntersville, where, meeting with the secondary westward upheaval above mentioned, it breaks through the westward escarpment of the valley, and thence runs in a northwesterly course diagonally through the Tennessee Basin, leaving the State a little south of its northwest corner. This basin is about fifty miles wide, and has numerous creeks both on the north and south of the river; those on the north running south, and those on the south running north into the Tennessee River. Those on the south side of the river rise in the divide (westward elevations,) while those on the north rise in the hills near the Tennessee line.

All south of this divide is a truly-inclined plane, its water flowing into the Gulf. This is the great Southern Watershed of the State. It has, however, several subdivisions, marked by the rivers which pass through it to the Gulf, each one forming the axis of its own subordinate watershed.

Commencing on the west we have the Bigbee River, entering the State near the southern border of Pickens county, uniting with the Warrior at Demopolis and thence running nearly south to its junction with the Alabama River. These two rivers, with their tributaries, drain all that part of the State south of the divide in Morgan, Lawrence and Franklin counties, to Sand Mountain on the east and in a southwesterly course with this mountain to the divide between the Warrior and the Alabama Rivers. This, which we may call the western or Bigbee shed, drains about one-fourth of the State.

The Alabama River, with its tributaries—The Cahaba, Coosa and Tallapoosa—drains all that portion of the State east of Sand Mountain and the Warrior and Alabama divide, except a few counties in the southeastern part. This is the central or Alabama River watershed. It drains all the central and northeastern part of the State. The remaining portion of the State, divided from

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this central shed by the Chunnenuggee ridge, is drained direct into the Gulf, through the Escambia, Conecuh, Yellow Water and Choctawhatchie Rivers. This is the southeastern shed, and drains the counties of Conecuh, Escambia, Butler, Crenshaw, Covington, Coffee, Pike, Barbour, Dale, Geneva and Henry.

Thus it is seen we have two main sheds—Northern (Tennessee Basin) and Southern; The latter divided into western, central and southeastern.

DRAINAGE.

The drainage of a given section depends upon the character of the surface elevations and undulations, and of the soils. It is characterized as surface and subsoil drainage. The latter has much to do with the healthfulness of a region, as "ground-water" is now known to exert an important influence in causing disease, especially consumption, as shown by the late distinguished sanitarian, Dr. Bowditch, of Boston.

The surface drainage of all the northern and central parts of the State is as complete as could be desired. It is traversed by many perennial creeks, which, from the hilly character of the surface, have a rapid flow, and thus ponds, marshes, or lagoons do not form along their course. The subsoil drainage, however, is not so good in many places, especially in the valleys where the inhabitants of this region principally reside. Subsoil drainage is largely dependent upon the character of the soils, and hence a few words in regard to the nature of the soils are necessary. Soils depend to a great degree upon the character of the rocks from which they are formed. This northern portion of the State has quite a variety of geological formations on rocks, and the soils vary accordingly.

Soils are generally divided into sandy, clayey, calcareous and alluvial. A combination of these gives the sandy loam (a mixture of sand and clay) and the calcareous loam (mixture of the calcareous and clay). The larger the proportion of sand in any of these the more porous it is, and hence better suited to subsoil drainage; while, if mostly of clay, or a mixture of clay and the calcareous, we have a compact, close soil, through which water percolates at great disadvantage. The post-oak soil, which is almost wholly of

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clay, is a good type of the clay soil. The soils of the western portion of the central region, derived from the sandrock of Sand Mountain, or the orange sand of the drift period, are good specimens of a porous, sandy soil. In a portion of this central section (on its southwestern border in Lamar, Pickens, and Tuscaloosa counties) the sand is mixed with pebbles in the clay, underlaid by coarse gravel, which adds very much to its capacity for subsoil drainage. The beautiful city of Tuscaloosa is located on one of these pebbly drift deposits, and no place in this State, or in any part of the United States, has a more perfect subsoil drainage. To this fact is attributed in great part the well-deserved reputation this city has for healthfulness.

The soil of that portion of the State on its eastern border, which I have called the red clay lands, derived from a granite formation, is a good specimen of a mixed sand and clay soil (sandy loam). To this admixture of sand this section owes its good subsoil drainage, and no doubt much of its healthfulness, which we shall see when we come to speak of the mortuary statistics ranks first, as compared with the other sections of the State.

The soils of many of the valleys of the northern part of the State are calcareous, or calcareous loam. This character of soil is compact and little pervious to water, and hence the subsoil drainage of these valley sections is not good, and to this fact is no doubt due the prevalence of consumption in the northern and northeastern parts of the State.

The surface drainage of the Prairie Belt is not so good as in the northern part of the State. The country is more level, the creeks have less fall, and in the river and creek bottoms are found occasionally ponds or lagoons. The soil, too, is a calcareous loam (derived from the rotten limestone) and the subsoil drainage not complete. This, however, is relieved from its deleterious effects to some extent by the fact that this section of the country has in the summer and fall but little "ground-water." Throughout this section, in the late summer and fall, there is but little water above the underlying limerock, so that cisterns dug in the rock to hold from 500 to 1,000 barrels of water are used instead of wells to supply water for family purposes.

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The drainage of the remaining portion of the State, the long-leaf pine lands, is good. Although the surface is level, ponds and marshes are rarely seen, and the decidedly sandy soils give to this section most excellent subsoil drainage. Here, as would be expected, we have but few malarial fevers, these being confined to the immediate river and creek bottoms where the soil is alluvial, and this section, with it balmy air and mild temperature, is remarkably free, as we shall see, from consumption.

FLORA.

From a sanitary point of view, we have more to do with the amount than the specific character of the flora. While describing the physical features of the different sections, meagre reference was made to some of the species of trees and growth found in each. My object here will be to speak only of the amount of vegetable matter (leaves, twigs, and decaying timber) that is annually thrown upon the surface to decay, and the amount of vegetable mould laid up in the soils from this source. The decay of vegetable matter, under the influence of heat and moisture, is known to be a constant accompaniment of malarial fevers, and hence the pertinence of this inquiry.

Alabama is comparatively a new State, and the time necessary for good sanitary regulations has not been afforded, or if time has been sufficient, the unorganized forces have not availed for the institution of proper means. Much of its surface is yet uncultivated, and covered with primal forests. Almost the entire sandy pine region in the southern part of the State is covered with dense long-leaf pine forests. The alluvial bottoms of this section are still more densely covered with various kinds of trees, shrubs, and vines. These annually throw down a large amount of vegetable debris to decay upon the surface, and collect as vegetable mould in the alluvial soils of the creek bottoms; causing malarial fevers. But these bottoms form a very small proportion of the section, and hence exert no very material influence upon its sanitary character.

The Black Belt or prairie lands, just north of this section, and the red clay lands in the eastern part, were also at one time, densely covered with forest growth. For ages the vegetable debris from these forests had been accumulating and mixing with the calcareous, loamy and clay soils, which gave them their great fertility,

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and I may add, at the same time that it laid up fertility in the soils, it also accumulated abundantly the elements of malarial fevers. This has, however, under the process of cultivation, much altered for the better. This region is one of the most important, both as to the number of its inhabitants, and as to its sanitary history in the State. When the tide of emigration moved west from North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia (1820 to 1835), many bold and energetic men found homes in Alabama on these red clay lands, fertile prairie plains, and along the alluvial valleys of rivers and creeks. The forests, which were everywhere dense, fell, as if by magic, before this agricultural army, and vast amounts of decaying timber were left to rot in the summer sun. In a few years almost the entire country was brought under cultivation. The surface was thus deprived of its protecting shade, and the soil loaded with vegetable matter upturned by the plow was exposed to the influence of air and the sun. The little creeks and branches too, which were often made the receptacle for the brush and undergrowth out from their borders, were clogged, and the channels thus obstructed, soon filled with mud and debris from the hillsides of the neighboring fields. As the summer waned, and the autumn approached, these foul streams ceased to flow, and pools of stagnant water marked the course of their channels. Nothing more need be added. Here were the hotbeds of disease and death, and many a stalwart frame fell a victim to their influence. The country from August to November was one wide field of malarial fever. The old and the young alike were its victims. With a reckless disregard for sanitary precautions, these bold pioneers rushed on through the carnal house of death, seeking wealth in the growth of the fleecy fiber; and, as was natural the cry went thoughout the land, "it is the house of death," and Alabama became the synonym of unhealthfulness. Ague, chills, remittent and congestive fevers became, justly, the scarecrow in regard to Alabama, and to this day, there are many who believe that the same reign of death and disease continues in this region. But this is not true. There was but one cause for this state of health, viz: A vast accumulation of vegetable matter in the soil, and another greater amount added to this in the decaying timber which fell before the agriculturist's axe. But this is entirely changed. From necessity, the creeks have ceased to be the receptacle of timber, their channels have been cleaned out, the low

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places ditched, the decaying timber has disappeared, and the soil has been by cultivation, deprived of its vegetable mould; in a word, the entire sanitary surroundings have been changed; and to-day, while intermittent and remitten fevers still linger in places, as reminders of the past, they are no longer dreaded and feared by the people of this region. With the exception of a few places, unfavorably located for drainage, it is as healthful as most agricultural regions on the same parallels of latitude.

And here, as malarial fever has been held up, and is still pointed to as a drawback to this section, I may be permitted to point out some facts in connection with its prevalence elsewhere in the United States. The idea prevails very generally that this is a disease of the South. Let us see if this is true. The following figures, taken from the census of 1880, will show this idea up in a different light.

From a map by Dr. J. S. Billings, of Washington, D. C., compiled from census of 1880, showing the distribution and prevalence of malarial fever, I have taken the following data. The figures represent the number of deaths from malarial fevers, as compared with total deaths from all causes:

North Carolina—Eastern part, 70 and over to 1,000; western part, 30 to 50; Virginia, eastern part, 10 to 30; Maryland, 10 to 30; New Jersey, 10 to 30; Connecticut, 10 to 30; Massachusetts, 10 to 30; Missouri and Kansas, 50 to 70; Illinois (southern part), 10 to 30; Iowa, 10 to 30; Oregon, 10 to 30; Washington Territory, 10 to 30; Montana and Dakota, 50 to 70.

This shows that malarial fever prevails to a considerable extent in every part of the United States, and is by no means peculiar to southern latitudes. We find it in the East, in Connecticut and Massachusetts, in the West in Illinois and Iowa, and in the extreme Northwest, on the Pacific slope, in Washington Territory and Oregon, and in Montana and Dakota, among the peaks and valleys of the Rocky Mountains.

It is not denied that it prevails to a greater extent in the South than in the East, West and Northwest, yet we still find, when it comes to an examination of mortality statistics, that other diseases, such as cancer, diphtheria, pneumonia and consumption in these

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other States, more than make up for the greater amount of malarial fever in the South.

The central mountainous region and the Tennessee Basin, except the immediate valley of the Tennessee River, were also densely covered with forests. The land adjacent to the Tennessee, in its flora and agricultural characteristics, resembles very nearly the red clay lands and the Prairie Belt, and the remarks made upon those sections will apply to this. A large part of this region, especially among the mountain ranges, is not well suited to agricultural purposes, and much of it still retains its primal forests. From these forests a large amount of vegetable matter is collected in the valleys, and here we find the mountain malarial, or continued malarial fever, which in many of its features resembles typhoid fever.

CLIMATIC INFLUENCES.

"The most potent influences which determine climate are latitude, elevation above tide, configuration of mountain ranges, proximity of the sea, and direction of prevailing winds," (Dr. Smith's Agricultural Report.)

All of these are brought into requisition in determining the climate of Alabama.

It is evident that Alabama must have a varied climate, since it extends over four and half degrees of latitude, from the Gulf coast (lat. 30 deg. 35 min.) to 35 deg. at the Tennessee line. It has also a varied altitude, from the level of the sea on the Gulf coast, to 2,500 feet, on its northeastern border. These mountains in the northeastern part extending southwest to the center of the State, by their configuration impress the directions of the winds, and determine also in this part of the State the precipitation or rainfall, while on the south the warm waters of the Gulf send their balmy air as far as the middle of the State; and on the southeast the Gulf stream is near enough to lend its influences to this variety. Few sections of country have such varied climatic influence, and none a greater variety of climate.

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TEMPERATURE.

The temperature of Alabama has received careful investigation from Dr. E. A. Smith, State Geologist, and much of what follows is condensed from his Agricultural Report of 1883.

"The extremes of temperature," says he, "are comparatively rare, and the extremes of heat during the summer months are especially moderated by the tempering winds from the Gulf of Mexico; while in those parts of the State most remote from the Gulf, their elevation above sea-level secures immunity from excessive heat."

Thus, it will be seen, in the almost semi-tropical climate of the southern part, we are protected from excessive heat by the balmy air of the Gulf, while in the northern part we are protected from extremes of heat by the altitude. The mean annual temperature of the State is 64.58 deg. F. The mean temperature for the seasons is as follows: Spring, 63.9 deg.; summer, 79.5 deg.; autumn, 64.5 deg.; winter, 54.4 deg. From daily observations kept by me at Livingston, lat. 32 deg. 35 min. 17 min. for sixteen years, from 1855 to 1870, the mean temperature for the sixteen years is 63.64 deg. F. This corresponds very nearly with the figures (64.58 deg.) given by Dr. Smith for the mean annual temperature of the State.

The aggregate mean maximum for this period of sixteen years was 74.66 deg. The aggregate mean minimum, 49.55 deg. This gives a mean range of only 25.11 deg. The aggregate mean of sixteen winters was 47.40 deg. The mean of coldest winter (1855–6), 40.22 deg.; the mean of warmest winter (1861–2), 54.23 deg. These figures corroborate the remark that "extremes of temperature are comparatively rare."

The following table gives the mean temperature of each of the sixteen winters (at Livingston,) the lowest point of the theromometer each winter, the aggregate temperature for the sixteen winters, and the first frost of autumn.

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WINTERS.	MEAN OF WINTERS.	MINIMUM OF THERMOMETER.	FIRST FROST OF AUTUMN.
1854-5	42 30	16° above zero.	
1855-6	40.22	6° " "	October 6.
1856-7	46.18	10° " "	September 25.
1857-8	49.17	22° " "	October 21.
1858-9	51 02	17° " "	" 15.
1859-60	41.74	12° " "	" 11.
1860-1	43.01	20° " "	" 13.
1861-2	54.23	27° " "	" 24.
1862-3	49.79	22° " "	" 26.
1863-4	45 24	16° " "	" 8.
1864-5	46.57	18° " "	" 10.
1865-6	48 45	12° " "	" 28.
1866-7	49 38	22° " "	" 24.
1867-8	50.80	16° " "	" 31.
1868-9	48.90	17° " "	November 2.
1869-70	50.50	24° " "	October 15.
AGGREGATE MEAN.	47.40		

The isothermal curves are deflected northward by the Bigbee and Coosa Valleys, and southward by the mountain ranges so that these curves pass across the State not parallel with the parallels of latitude, going north of the line in the valleys and south of it in the mountain regions. In the absence of maps showing these curves, I will describe them as well as I can, as laid down on the maps, which are compiled from the data of the Smithsonian Institute by Dr. E. A. Smith.

The mean isothermal line of winter (52 deg.) commences on the west border of the State near the lower line of Washington county (Lat. 31 deg. 15 min.) and going east, ascends slightly as it crosses the valley of the Bigbee and Alabama Rivers (Lat. 31 deg. 25 min.) and then descends gently until it passes out of the State near the southwest corner of Covington county, (Lat. 31 deg.) The curve of 48 deg. enters the State on the west at the line between Sumter and Choctaw counties (Lat. 32 deg. 20 min.) and ascends rapidly at an angle of 25 deg. through Sumter, Marengo and Perry, to the village of Clanton in Chilton county (Lat. 32 deg. 50 min.) and thence turns rather abruptly south at an angle of 40 deg. to Tuskegee, (Lat. 32 deg. 22 min.) and

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thence a little north of east to the Georgia line at the northeast corner of Russell county, (Lat. 32 deg. 30 min.)

These two curves are south of the elevated part of the State, and, being but little influenced by altitude, or configuration of the mountain ranges, run in lines somewhat approximating the lines of the parallels of latitude. The isothermal curve of 44 deg. F. is more irregular in its course, being deflected sharply northward by the Coosa Valley and southward by the mountain ranges.

It enters the State on the west at the line separating Colbert and Franklin counties (Lat. 34 deg. 30 min.) and runs in a northeasterly direction across Colbert and Lauderdale to the Tennessee line (Lat. 35 deg.) and then curving almost directly back, runs southwest through the counties of Limestone, Lawrence, northwest corner of Winston, and southeast corner of Marion to Fayetteville (Lat. 33 deg. 40 min.) in Fayette county, where it turns in a southwesterly direction to Tuscaloosa (Lat. 33 deg. 12 min.) thence a little south of east to the line of Bibb county (33 deg. 10 min.) where it again turns northeast through Bibb and Shelby into St. Clair (33 deg. 30 min.) and thence southeast to Talladega, thence southeast through Clay and the northeast corner of Tallapoosa to the line of Chambers, and thence east through the center of this county to the Georgia line, Lat. 32 deg. 55 min.

This line, as is seen, is very irregular in its course, running northeast across the valley of the Tennessee to the Tennessee line, thence deflected south by the mountains to Fayetteville (Lat. 35°, 40'), thence again north by the Coosa Valley Lat. 35°, 30', and thence south by the highlands east of this valley to the Georgia line in Lat. 32°, 55.

The irregular manner in which these curves run shows plainly the influence of the valleys and mountains upon temperature, and emphasizes the features which gave such a great variety to the climate of Alabama. These are mean curves of winter. With the view of further illustrating this subject, I will give one mean isothermal curve of summer. The mean curve of 80° F. of summer enters the State on the west in Sumter county nearly opposite to Livingston (Lat. 32°, 35') and runs northeast through Sumter, Greene, and Pickens to Tuscaloosa, (Lat. 33°, 12'), and

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then almost directly south through Tuscaloosa, Hale, and Marengo to Lat. 32°, 12', and thence southeast through southern part of Dallas, corner of Lowndes, northeast corner of Butler, and centers of Crenshaw, Coffee, and Geneva to the Florida line (31°). Here we see this line is first deflected sharply north by the influence of the mountains to Tuscaloosa, and thence by the Alabama Valley and the tempering winds of the Gulf, it is carried nearly two degrees south to the Florida line in Geneva county. Here we have the same modifying influence (proximity of the Gulf) tempering the cold of winter and ameliorating the heat of summer, so as to prevent extremes in either season. The curve of 80° is very near the mean temperature of the summer (79.5°). The mean annual temperature of the State is 64.58°. Let us then trace the mean annual curve of 64°, which nearly corresponds with this. The mean annual curve of 64°, commences on the west line of the State in Sumter at Lat. 32.30°, very nearly at the same point at which the mean summer curve of 80° commenced. In fact, the lines taken from the data of the Smithsonian Institute, and the observations made by me at Livingston, show this place to be not only in point of latitude near the middle of the State, but also the point of the mean annual and mean snmmer temperature. This curve runs nearly due east eighty miles to Prattville, in Autauga county, and thence southwest through Montgomery county to a little south of Troy (Lat. 31°, 18'), and thence north of east to the Georgia line (Lat. 31°, 40') in Barbour county.

Here it will be noted that this annual curve as it nears the Georgia line turns a little north of the most southern point at Troy. This is due to the influence of the cold winter winds blowing down the valleys in the eastern part of the State. These winds do not prevail during the summer, and hence the summer curve (80°) continues in its southwestern course until it passes out of the State on the Florida line.

At the risk of being tedious, I have given these details to show the influence of the causes mentioned at the head of this section upon the temperature of Alabama, and also as a means of pointing out the great variety of its climate.

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RAINFALL AND ATMOSPHERIC MOISTURE.

The area and amount of rainfall are so concisely stated by Dr. Smith, that I will take the liberty of quoting liberally from him:

"An annual precipitate of fifty-six inches and upward falls within a belt narrowest in the middle and widening out at both ends, and crossing the State diagonally from the southwestern to the northeastern corner." This belt is about fifty-five miles wide in the center, on a line passing through Perry and Autauga counties, 100 miles over the northeastern part, through Marshall, Etowah, and Cherokee, and 125 miles at its southwestern part, through Washington, Clarke, Monroe, Conecuh, and Covington. "In the lower part of the belt, an area including Mobile and Baldwin, and parts of Washington, Clarke, Monroe, Wilcox, Dallas, Lowndes, Butler, Conecuh, and Escambia counties, receives an annual rainfall of sixty-two inches and upward, reaching a maximum of sixty-four inches at Mount Vernon. Eastward of the maximum belt the amount of rainfall decreases, being between forty-four and fifty-six inches over the southeastern part of the State, and westward of the main belt between fifty and fifty-six inches."

The average rainfall for the entire State is 55.04 inches, and of this 13.86 inches fall during the spring months, 14.07 inches during the summer, 14.70 during the autumn, and 16.37 during the winter. "During the winter months (December, January and February) we find the area of maximum rainfall running along the western border of the State within thirty miles of the Mississippi line, except where a branch is thrown off, including parts of Dallas, Wilcox, Lowndes, Montgomery, Butler, Crenshaw, Pike and Bullock counties, and another deflection toward the east in Tennessee valley, including parts of Lawrence, Limestone and Madison counties." In this area, the winter rainfall is from sixteen to eighteen inches, and over the rest of the State from twelve to sixteen inches, except a strip along the eastern border of the State below Chambers, where it falls below twelve inches.

"During the summer months (June, July and August) the greatest amount of rain falls south of a line running from the southwestern part of Choctaw county to the upper line of Dallas, and thence, southward, to the southeastern part of the State, in

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Henry county. Within the area thus outlined the rainfall is fourteen inches and upward, increasing to eighteen inches and more in Mobile, Baldwin, Washington, Clarke, Monroe, Butler, Conecuh, Escambia, and Covington counties."

Over the rest of the State the summer rainfall is below fourteen inches, except a small area in Limestone, Lauderdale, and Madison, in the Tennessee valley.

The belt of maximum mean annual rainfall described above extends across the State diagonally from its southwest to its northeast corner. We can readily account for the maximum in the southwestern portion of this belt as high as to Wilcox and to Lowdnes counties. The warm air of the Gulf surcharged with moisture meets the cooler currents of the northeast winds (directed by the axis of the mountain ranges in the northeastern part of the State) and readily gives up its moisture in rain.

But in the northeastern mountain section, where the maximum rain belt still extends, the factors are changed. Here the moist air from the Atlantic wafted over the eastern part of the State by the southeast winds of spring and autumn is brought into contact with the cooler air of this mountain section and precipitation occurs.

The same train of influences will account for the change of area of rainfall in the winter. In winter, as stated above, the area of maximum rainfall commences about thirty to forty miles from the Gulf coast and extends up the western border of the State in a belt about thirty miles wide, with an increase in width just below the center of the State, including Dallas, Lowndes, and Crenshaw counties. This precipitation, as far north as Marengo and Sumter counties, is evidently the result of the warm, moist air of the Gulf immediately south of these localities, meeting with the cooler currents of the north winds. The deflection eastward into Dallas, Lowndes and Crenshaw is the result of the warm air meeting with the cooler air of the Chunnenuggee ridge, which exactly marks the axis of the eastward deflection. As this rain belt extends up the western border of the State, it is indented on its eastern line, making the narrowest part of the belt in Pickens county. It then continues up the western border of the State to the Tennessee Valley, where it is deflected eastward along this valley to the mountain in Jackson county. Here the moist air of the Gulf

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south of Mississippi and Louisiana, passing over these States into the western part of Alabama, meets with the cooler north winds of the mountain regions, deflected southwest by the mountains, and the line of precipitation is carried westward, forming the indentation in the belt in Pickens county. Above this, in Lamar, Marion, and the southern part of Franklin, the moist current is somewhat protected from the cool air by the mountains on the northeast, and the rain area regains its original width of thirty miles, and continues up to the Tennessee Valley, where it is deflected up this valley to the colder air line of the mountains on the east of this valley.

In the summer months the area of moist air is confined to the southern part of the State, below the parallel of the thirty-second degree of latitude; while in the spring and fall the air of the central region, and the eastern part of the State, is frequently rendered moist by the east winds, which, in these seasons, blow from the Atlantic.

Prevailing winds have much to do with the moisture of the air. The most constantly prevailing winds of Alabama are the south and the north winds. The south winds prevail most of the time from May to November, and the north winds from November to May. But while the winds are generally south or north, as indicated above, they are quite changeable in March and April, and they are also subject to periodic changes which correspond with the warm spells of winter and cool spells of summer, blowing from the south during the former, and from the north during the latter. Also, at intervals during the entire year, but especially in spring, the wind is from the east, at which times we have those long, slow rains known as east rains. These are from the Atlantic.

The moisture of these different winds depend upon their direction. The south wind from the Gulf and east wind from the Atlantic are moist, while the north and northwest winds are dry. There is occasionally a notable exception to this in the south winds. This occurs usually when the thermometer is high and the wind gentle. Thus the month of July, 1860, which was the warmest month in the sixteen years in which I made at this point meteorological observations, the thermometer on two days reached 102°

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Fahrenheit. During this month the wind was steadily south, and yet the hygrometric condition of the air was the lowest reached for the series of sixteen years, and the rainfall only 1.58 inches; nearly all of this on the 30th of the month.

The areas of dry atmospheres are determined by these prevailing winds. In the southern part of the State, as far north as Chunnenuggee Ridge, we have a moist air, both winter and summer. Above this, in the prairie region, and the red clay lands of East Alabama we have a dry atmosphere, except during the prevalence of the east winds from the Atlantic. In the central mountain regions we have a dry air during the winter and most of the summer. In the spring and fall it is more moist from the greater prevalence of the moist east winds during these seasons.

Whether, then, we consider the climate of Alabama in regard to its temperature, rainfall or atmospheric moisture, we find it influenced by its mountains, its proximity to the Gulf and Atlantic, and its prevailing winds. These influences are such as to cause the greatest variety, and at the same time prevent extremes.

MORTALITY STATISTICS.

I have, with a good degree of detail, yet in a very cursory manner, given the facts in regard to the topography and climate of Alabama. It remains to make some general remarks in application of these facts to the subject before us. In continuation of the design of this paper, which is to give data for the formation of opinions, rather than the mere expression of opinions, I shall give, as far as I can, the data derived from mortality statistics, for the formation of correct conclusions.

In order to do this, I have collated from the Report of the Board of Health of Alabama, 1884, and from the census of the United States, 1880, data which will enable us to compare the different sections of the State with each other, and the State with other States of the Union.

Deaths per 1,000 of population in each section of the State; Section 1, Pine Lands, Southern Alabama, 13.10. Section 2, Prairie Belt, Middle Alabama, 14.46. Section 3, Red Clay Lands, East Alabama, 12.27. Section 4, Central Mountainous, 14.30. Section 5, Tennessee Basin, 16.13.

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These figures have been corrected so as to correspond with the rate per 1,000 of population (14.20) given as the death rate of Alabama by the census of 1880.

According to these figures, we find that No. 3 stands first in point of healthfulness; No. 1, second; No. 4, third; No. 2, fourth; No. 5, fifth.

The following table gives the annual death rate per 1,000 of population (census, 1880) of the States named, of the United States, and rate per 1,000 of colored population:

	TOTAL.	COLORED.
United States	15.09	
Alabama.	14.20	16.06
Connecticut	14.74	19 74
Delaware.	15 09	19.29
District Columbia	23 60	32 61
Indiana	15.78	25.40
Kentucky	14 39	19.75
Maryland.	18 10	21.48
Massachusetts	18 59	20 12
Missouri	16.89	20 79
New Jersey	16.33	18.86
New York	17 38	22.28
North Carolina.	15 39	17 79
Rhode Island	17.00	27 68
Tennessee	16.80	21 74
Virginia	16.32	19 34

It is seen from this table that the rate of deaths in Alabama is less than the aggregate of the United States, and also less than any one of the States named. Also, by a comparison of the total and the colored rates, it is seen that the colored death rate is, in ever instance, greater than that of the total rate, which would make the difference greater between the white and colored than appears in these figures. The white rate as given for Alabama is 12.58; colored, 18.86. Virginia, 14.01; colored, 19.34. New Jersey, 16.20; colored, 18.86; New York, 17.33; colored, 22.28.

It may be said that the census among the colored was more imperfect than among the whites. The same care was taken to reach them as the whites; and why should the negro, when questioned on this point, not remember the death in his family as well as the white man? In fact, we find the ratio of deaths in every instance is greater among the colored than the whites. This

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increased death rate among the colored race puts those States which have a large colored population, such as Alabama, Tennessee and Virginia, at a disadvantage when their total death rate is compared with those which have a smaller colored population. So, that if it be true that there is a deficiency in the enumeration of the blacks, this deficiency is more than counterbalanced in a comparison between the Southern and the Northern States by the increased death rate in the large colored population of the former. We have every reason to believe, from these figures, that the chances for life are better in Alabama than in the other States named in the table.

The reasons for this will appear more plainly by the following comparison of certain general diseases which prevail in every part of the United States. I have selected for this purpose, Malarial Fever, Typhoid Fever, Consumption, Pneumonia, Diphtheria and Cancer. These six diseases are more generally prevalent than any others. In the United States, in 1879-80, according to the census of 1880, from all causes there were 756,893 deaths, or 15.09 per 1,000. From the six diseases above named, there were, for the same time, 248,619 deaths, or 4.95 per 1,000 of population ; or 328, to every 1,000 deaths in the United States. Thus it is seen that nearly one-third of the total number of deaths was from these six causes.

In Alabama there were from all diseases 17,929 deaths, or 14.20 per 1,000 of population. From the six diseases above mentioned there were in Alabama 6,274, or 4.96 per 1,000 of population; or 344 deaths per 1,000 of all diseases in the State. This gives you a fraction over one-third of the deaths by all diseases.

I have selected New York, New Jersey and Connecticut, for a comparison with Alabama, based upon these six diseases. In these three States the rate per 1,000 of all deaths is less than in Alabama, which is to the disadvantage of the last named State in the comparison; and yet when we compare the rate per 1,000 of population of these six diseases in Alabama with the rate of the same diseases for the United States, and for the other three States, we find but very little difference, showing that the larger rate from malarial fevers in Alabama is very nearly counterbalanced by the greater prevalence of the remaining five diseases in the entire

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United States, and also in the States of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut. And, if this comparison is extended to all diseases, this excess is more than counterbalanced, as shown by the table on a preceding page.

The rate of malarial fever (1.04) in Alabama, is high, as compared with the other States named, but there are compensating factors. This is evident, when we compare the rate of consumption in Alabama (1.30), with that of New York (2.01), Connecticut (2.02), and New Jersey (1.86).

So, also, with typhoid fever, Alabama, 0.23; New York, 0.29; Connecticut, 0.32, and New Jersey, 0.22. Here Alabama has the advantage, except in New Jersey which is nearly the same.

So, again with diptheria, United States, 0.76; Alabama, 0.18; New York, 0.81; New Jersey, 0.32; Connecticut, 0.36. Here Alabama has largely the advantage of the other States.

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	UNITED STATES.		ALABAMA.			NEW YORK.			NEW JERSEY.			CONNECTICUT.		
	No. of Deaths for each of the Six Diseases.	Rate per 1,000 of population.	No. of Deaths for each of the Six Diseases.	Rate per 1,000 of Population.	Rate per 1,000 of all Diseases.	No. of Deaths for each of the Six Diseases	Rate per 1,000 of Population.	Rate per 1,000 of all Diseases.	No. of Deaths for each of the Six Diseases.	Rate per 1,000 of Population.	Rate per 1,000 of all Diseases.	No. of Deaths for each of the Six Diseases	Rate per 1,000 of Population.	Rate per 1,000 of all Diseases.
Malarial Fevers	20,231	0.47	1,317	1.04		43(	0.15		142	0 23		177	0 34	
Typhoid Fevers	22,854	0.51	976	0.23	..	844	0.29	..	177	0 22		167	0.32	
Consumption	91,270	2.10	1,700	1.30	.	5,79(	2 01		1,456	1.86	..	1,150	2 02	
Pneumonia	63,053	1.47	1,74(	1.40		2,951	1.03		825	1.05	...	651	1.25	
Diphtheria	38,143	0.76	231	0.18		2,324	0.81	...	251	0 32		189	0 36	
Cancer	13,068	0.25	202	0 16		1,090	0.38	...	255	0.32	..	222	0.42	
Totals	248,619	4.95	6,274	4 31	444	13,144	4 57	149.	2,810	3.51	170	2,550	4 93	278.

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Dr. J. S. Billings, of the U. S. A., located at Washington, has collated from the census of 1880, some very interesting data upon the mortality of the United States. In his address before the British Medical Association, August, 1886, he exhibited the results in maps, shaded so as to represent the relative mortality by certain diseases in different parts of the United States. These maps are portioned off by six different shades, according to the prevalence of the disease represented, the rate per thousand of all diseases being indicated by the shading. One of these maps, No. 4, shows "the distribution of deaths from cancer, as compared with the total deaths from all known causes." In these six divisions, the lowest has under 10 per 1,000, and the highest 35 and over per 1,000. In this map, Alabama is placed in the second lowest grade, or 10 to 15 to 1,000.

Another map, No. 2, shows the distribution of consumption, the grades ranging from 75 to 175 and over per 1,000. Here, all Alabama, except in the northeastern mountain region, and the Tennessee Basin, is represented in the lowest grade, under 75 per 1,000; and the excepted part is only in the fourth grade, or 125 to 150 per 1,000.

The pine regions of Alabama have ever been regarded as well suited to consumptives. On the map referred to, Dr. Billings ranks this part of Alabama as superior to Florida. The map shows in this part of Alabama, 50 to 75, and in Florida, 75 to 100 per 1,000.

All the eastern and middle States, many of the western States, and most of California, show from 150 to 175 per 1,000.

Dr. Billings has also represented on another map, No. 3, the distribution of pneumonia. On this map, Alabama ranks in the third grade, 100 to 125 per 1,000, except in the northeastern part, where it ranks in the second grade, 75 to 100 per 1,000. This latter is the portion of Alabama where consumption prevails to a greater extent than in other parts of the State. These maps, not only in Alabama, but in every section of the country, represent apparent antagonism between pneumonia and consumption; or where one prevails the other is rare.

This is markedly set out in a mountain region of country on

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the upper Colorado River, divided into two parts by this river. Here, on the east side of the river, consumption prevails to the extent of 125 to 150 per 1,000, and on the west side only 75 per 1,000. But on the other hand, on the east side of this river, in the same locality, pneumonia prevails only to the extent of 100 to 125 per 1,000, while on the west side it prevails to the extent of 175 and over, per 1,000.

A similar antagonism, is by some supposed to exist between malarial fever and consumption, but here as in the case of pneumonia and consumption, the apparent antagonism is rather to be sought in the sanitary environments in their relation to the two diseases, than in any antagonism of the diseases themselves. But though there may not exist any antagonism between the different diseases, yet it is evident from what has gone before, that there are often compensating factors in the sanitary history of one section as compared with another. While in one locality or State, a given disease may prevail to a greater extent than in another, the compensating environments will balance the mortality accounts, so as to make them equal in the two localities.

This is the idea intended to be set out in this paper. While it is not denied that malarial fever prevails in Alabama to a greater extent than in some other States, we have seen that it is not peculiar to Alabama and other Southern States, but prevails to some extent in every part of the Union. We have found it on the Atlantic coast, in New Jersey and Connecticut, the Pacific slope, in California, Oregon, and Washington Territory, and among the peaks of the Rocky Mountains, in Wyoming and Idaho. * * * Not only this, we find that the topographical and climatic influences which engender this disease are unfavorable to the prevalence of consumption and diptheria, and hence, these latter diseases are very prevalent in the States where malarial fever is less prevalent.

These compensating influences balance the account between the two, and I believe any fair mind, which will examine the data here presented, will be forced to this conclusion.

I have already given facts to show that the deleterious influences of the prairie region have been much changed for the better,

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and its sanitary condition thereby improved. The increased regard for the importance of sanitary precaution, which is being rapidly developed through the efforts of the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, stamps the motto of this association, *non etiam speravimus meliora*, as applicable, not only to the progress of medical science, but also to the future sanitary condition of the State. In this connection it is well to say a few words in regard to the organization of the

MEDICAL ASSOCIATION OF THE STATE OF ALABAMA.

This society has been in existence since the year 1847; but was reorganized by the adoption of a new constitution in 1873.

Under the constitution, the association consists of two classes of members, viz: one hundred counselors, or permanent members, and two delegates from each county society. In February, 1875, the Legislature passed an act, by which the Medical Association of the State is created the Board of Health of the State of Alabama, and the county medical societies, the Boards of Health for their respective counties.

The State Board of Health has its board of censors, consisting of ten members, which is also the committee of health. The county boards have also their committee of health, with an executive health officer for their respective counties. Thus, it will be seen, the Board of Health ramifies into every county, with the central board, directing and controlling all. To these boards of health, State and county, are entrusted all the sanitary interests of the State.

By this means the sanitary legislation of the State is placed, where it should be, under the control of the doctors of the State. Feeling the responsibility that rests upon them, they are working energetically and systematically, to educate the people up to a proper appreciation of health and the means of securing it; and they hope soon to make Alabama, what her sanitary enviroments warrant, one of the healthiest States in the Union.

A word in regard to the

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MINERAL WATERS

Of the State, as adjuncts to its healthfulness, and I shall close this paper, which has already grown to a much greater length than was intended. Mineral waters have ever been held in high esteem as curative elements; both by the profession and by the people. And no doubt many of them possess healing properties of great value, particularly in chronic affections, where we seek to restore heath through an *alterative* process, and to build up those worn down by over work and disease through the nutritive system; and thereby give fat and blood to these weary ones. Mineral Waters, then, are important factors in the healthfulness of a State.

Alabama is fortunate in having quite a number of mineral waters of sufficient variety to be suited to a large class of diseases.

These waters may be divided in four varieties, viz: sulphur, acid of vichey, chalybeate, and saline.

The larger proportion of the waters of the State belongs to the class of sulphur waters. To this class belongs Bladon Springs, Choctaw county; Blount Springs, Blount county; Jackson's Spring, Clarke county; Shelby Springs, Shelby county; Talladega Springs, Talladega county; St. Clair Springs, St. Clair county. Others might be added to the list, but these are representative. Of these Bladon, Blount and St. Clair are most noted.

Bladon Sulphur is situated in Choctaw county, in the pine region of the State, and in addition to its virtue as a medical water has the advantage of that healthy pine country, the characteristics of which have already been pointed out. At the same place is also located the *Bladon Vichey*, so that one may have the choice of the two; and near by (two miles), is *Cullum's Soda Sulphur*. This latter has a large quantity of carbonate of soda, and is well suited to dyspepsia, and the acid variety. All of them have carbonic acid, and one of them, the Bladon Vichey, has 110 cubic inches to the gallon. *Healing Spring*, in the same county, is a chalybeate water. I have not seen an analysis, but have good reason to believe it a carbonate, held rather as a medical mixture, than in chemical solution. The water, on tests, gives very little indication of iron, yet the carbonate of iron is deposited from it around the spring in very large quantities, so much so that it is

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gathered, dried and used as a medicine by the visitors. This deposit is in the form of an impalpable powder, and no doubt possesses, to a great extent, the virtues of the water. The water is cool and pleasant to the taste, and has a notable quantity of carbonic acid, which constantly bubbles from the surface. This renders it a light water, and visitors drink it in large quantities without a feeling of fullness of the stomach. Thus used, it acts freely (perhaps mechanically) upon the kidneys, and is gaining considerable reputation for the cure of albuminuria.

This county (Choctaw) also produces the now somewhat noted *acid iron earth.* This is produced by lixiviation of the earth in rude hoppers. It is a watery solution of sulphate of iron with probably crenic and hypocrenic acids in small quantity. It, however, owes what virtue it has to the sulphate of iron, and being a watery solution, I have here spoken of it as a mineral water.

Nearly akin to this in properties is *McCall's Well*, near Greenville, Butler county.

This well is a new candidate for the suffrages of the class of invalids who annually visit watering places, and will no doubt attain to popularity. It is a strong sulphate of iron water, and has much the appearance and taste of the acid iron earth, with which it evidently is closely allied in its properties. The following is the analysis by Professor Stubbs, late of the A. and M. College of Alabama, now of the University of Louisiana:

One litre contains, sulphuric acid, 84⅓ grains; ferric oxide, 27¾ grains; ferrous oxide; 17⅔ grains; caicic oxide, 107–10 grains; potasic oxide, 2¼ grains; magnesic oxide, 4⅔ grains; sodium, 4-10 grains; chlorine, 3-5 grains; silica, 2¾ grains; carbonic acid, 57-10 grains.

While this is not strictly speaking an alum water, it possesses some of the characteristics of the Bath alum and Rockbridge alum springs of Virginia, but is very much stronger in sulphuric acid and iron than either of these. I cannot speak at length of all of these springs, but Blount and St. Clair are worthy of special notice. They are sulphur springs, both of them with well-earned popularity, and both located in the mountain region of the State, and thus have the advantage of elevation and mountain scenery.

I will mention only one other—the Livingston artesian water

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at Livingston, Sumter county. This is a saline water, and the only one in the State of this class with any reputation for medicinal virtues. It is, as its name implies, an artesian well, bored through the cretaceous limestone to the depth of 1,060 feet. It is located in the Prairie Belt on the public square of Livingston, which, like Tuscaloosa, is situated on a bed of "sandy drift," and hence has excellent subdrainage. To this fact, and the complete drainage of all the surrounding country, is no doubt due its now well-established reputation for healthfulness.

The water has a large quantity of chloride of sodium, notable quantities of chloride of iron and magnesia, and an appreciable quantity of bromide of sodium, with a large amount of carbonic acid. It is especially noted for the cure of dyspepsia and chronic diarrhœa, or dysentery. It acts freely upon the kidneys and has a reputation for diseases of this organ. It has been used by hundreds in the past five years with almost invariable success.

Alabama, with such a record of healthfulness, its varied topography and climate, fertile soils, and unrivaled mineral resources, offers great inducements to those seeking homes in the South.

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RIVER SYSTEM OF ALABAMA

Of all the States of the Union, Alabama has the greatest number of valuable waterways. Her rivers are not only more numerous, but excel also in their length and value, as they drain all the regions for which the State is famous—timber, agricultural, and mineral. Every section of the State is favored with an abundant supply of water, and is accessible to water transportation. The inland steam navigation of the State exceeds 2,000 miles. These splendid rivers will ultimately serve as valuable channels of commerce in bearing the products from the mines, fields, and forests of Alabama to the Southern seas and thence to different quarters of the globe. Nearly all the rivers are navigable, though several are interrupted in their navigation by natural barriers which can be removed, while others, which are not fitted for navigable purposes, have falls that will eventually prove valuable to manufacturers.

THE TENNESSEE RIVER.

The primitive tribes called this majestic stream, which scoops in the northern tier of counties, the Great Bend, which is said to be the meaning of Tennessee. Having its source in the southwestern part of Virginia, it flows towards the southwest, 280 miles, to Knoxville, Tennesse. Sixty miles, still to the southwest, it reaches Loudon, Tennessee. At this point it turns at right-angles and flows toward the northwest, making its way through several subordinate ridges, twenty-four miles to Kingston, Tennessee, where it forms a junction with the Clinch River, one of its largest tributaries. At the last named point the river resumes a southwest course for 110 miles, where it reaches the bustling city of Chattanooga, Tennessee. Here it alternates again, swooping abruptly to the northwest, nineteen miles, and pushing its

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way through the eastern branch of the Cumberland range to what is known as the *Boiling Pot*, once a natural obstruction, which is removed. Again alternating, the river turns sharply to the southwest and flows in a tortuous course for forty-one miles to Bridgeport, Alabama, and on in the same direction it pursues its way seventy-four miles further to the promising town of Guntersville, Alabama. Turning to the northwest again at this last-named point, it gradually bends its way toward the north for the distance of fifty-one miles to Decatur, Alabama. Just ten miles below this point, at Brown's Ferry, is met the head of the famous natural obstruction, Muscle Shoals. This obstruction embraces about thirty-eight miles of this splendid stream. It does not terminate until the stream comes within sight of Florence, Alabama. Just thirty-four miles from Florence is Waterloo, Alabama, where the Tennessee bends northward, and, after traversing 296 miles, it empties into the Ohio at Paducah, Kentucky. Thus the total distance from its fountain head to Paducah is 1,037 miles. Nearly one-third of the river is embraced in Alabama. It flows through five great States, to each of which it is of immense benefit. It is almost equal to the Ohio in length, breadth and volume, and ranks sixth in magnitude among the rivers of the North American continent. It is only necessary to complete the removal of the natural impediment at the Muscle Shoals to make it a channel of commerce the value of which to our own State as well as to others cannot be computed.

MOBILE RIVER.

Mobile River is the result of the junction of the Alabama and Tombigbee Rivers, about fifty miles north of the city of Mobile. It flows its short course in a deep, broad channel between the counties of Mobile and Baldwin, and empties into Mobile Bay just below the city of Mobile. Along its broad bosom and deep channel are conveyed the products of the upper country as they descend the Alabama, Tombigbee, Little Tombigbee and Black Warrior. And when the obstructions which now block the channel of the Coosa are removed, the abundant mineral and agricultural products which will be borne down that stream, will be conveyed along the broad surface of Mobile River.

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TOMBIGBEE RIVER.

This large and important stream is formed by the junction of the upper Tombigbee and the Black Warrior Rivers, in the northern edge of the county of Marengo, and but a short distance above the city of Demopolis. It affords a natural means of transportation to the counties lying adjacent, viz: Marengo, Sumter, Choctaw, Clarke and Washington. Measured from its formation by the rivers just named to its junction with the Alabama, about fifty miles above Mobile, it is about 256 miles long. It is one of the most important rivers of the South, penetrating as it does the western portion of the noted cotton belt. Lands of marvelous fertility lie on either side of this noble stream from its formation to its confluence with the Alabama. Like its twin sister, the Alabama River, it is an important thoroughfare leading to the deep waters of the Gulf. Besides furnishing transportation of agricultural products, it is a natural means of conveyance to the distant markets of the timbers of the splendid forests which lie contiguous to it. And at no distant day it will furnish transportion to the mineral productions to which the Tombigbee is sufficiently accessible to be easily reached by short and cheap railway lines. And when the obstructions are removed from the Black Warrior and Sipsey Rivers, which penetrate the mineral heart of Alabama, the Tombigbee will be second to no stream in the South as an important channel of commerce.

LITTLE, OR UPPER TOMBIGBEE RIVER.

The Little Tombigbee, which is only a continuation of the stream just treated, rises in the northwestern part of the State of Mississippi. Following toward the South, it touches Alabama first on the western border of Pickens county and forms the boundary line between that county and Mississippi for a considerable distance. Both Columbus and Aberdeen, points of great importance in Mississippi, are situated upon this river, and their prosperity is, in no small measure, due to the commercial advantages which the Little Tombigbee affords to the city of Mobile and the waters of the Gulf. For nearly three-fourths of the year this river is one of the chief channels of commerce to the three famous agricul-

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tural counties of Pickens, Green and Sumter. From its junction with the Warrior to Fulton, the head of navigation, the distance is 320 miles, which, taken in connection with the length of the Lower Tombigbee, or Tombigbee proper, the distance from Mobile to Fulton is 563 miles.

THE BLACK WARRIOR.

The region penetrated by this stream, its volume and perpetual flow, and its fall of five feet to the mile above the city of Tuscaloosa, make it at once a river of vast importance to the prospective wealth of Alabama. It is formed by the union of two large creeks, known as the Locust and Mulberry Forks, near the center of the immense mineral region of Alabama. These large, deep forks, which meet upon the confines of the counties of Walker and Jefferson, rise far up in the plateau of Sand Mountain, and thoroughly drain the famous Warrior coalfields. Nature seems to have designed these streams as lines of commerce along which to float the vast deposits of mineral wealth to the seas of the South. Follow along the lines of these great natural prongs and you traverse the richest mineral fields of the world, and descend along the ever-widening and deepening streams until you reach the harbor of Mobile. Barges laden with coal may be launched at any point along the great tributaries of the Warrior and floated along waters of gradual descent to the Gulf. It is impossible now to estimate the value which the Warrior will be to Alabama when the impediments which now block its channel are cleared away. With the river below Tuscaloosa improved so as to be navigable for tugs and barges, a coal trade would be inaugurated that would, in a single year, change the whole aspect of the prosperty of our great Commonwealth.

SIPSEY RIVER.

This is one of the main tributaries of the Upper Tombigbee River, entering that stream near the village of Vienna, in Pickens county. It finds its source in Fayette county, north of Fayette Court-house, and flows to the southwest through a portion of the Warrior coal-field and the fertile sections of Tuscaloosa and Pickens counties, a distance of 185 miles. It is navigable for

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light draught steamers and has been used for such even as high as Fayette Court-house. But this was the result of private enterprise. The value of the stream, in its relations to the rich mineral sections of Alabama, has never been appreciated. Along its banks abound not only rich mineral and agricultural products, but as fine building stone as exists in the State, as well as immense forests of timber. It has been estimated that if rendered navigable, at least 10,000 bales of cotton would annually be transported along its current to the city of Mobile. Barges ladened with coal are now floated along the Sipsey River during the high water, and down the Tombigbee to the Gulf.

THE NOXUBEE RIVER.

This is an important tributary of the Upper Tombigbee, flowing into it about one mile above the town of Gainesville, in Sumter county. Its source is in Choctaw county, Mississippi. Flowing through immense forests and penetrating some of the most fertile lands of Alabama and Mississippi for more than a hundred miles, it loses itself in the waters of the Tombigbee at the point just named. During the high water stage the Noxubee is navigable as high as Macon, Mississippi. It is susceptible of navigation to a point much higher with the removal of the bars, snags, and rafts which now obstruct its channel. Making its way through a country so highly favored in its agricultural capabilities, this stream would be of considerable benefit to the shippers of cotton in the sections of Mississippi and Alabama which it penetrates. Easy and cheap transportation to Mobile would thus be afforded thousands of bales of cotton, to say nothing of other productions and the timbers hewn from neighboring forests.

THE ALABAMA RIVER.

This is the chief river of the State. It is formed by the junction of the Coosa and Tallapoosa Rivers, not a great distance from the city of Montgomery. It has been constantly navigated by large steamers since the earliest settlement of the State. Reports of the principal navigable rivers of the world show that the Alabama River is freer from obstructions and disadvantages than any other on the globe. Its relation to the future develop-

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ment of the resources of the State is readily seen when one unfolds the map of Alabama and discovers that it penetrates unlimited forests of most excellent timber and of every variety ; flows through eight of the finest agricultural counties of Alabama, viz : Elmore, Montgomery, Autauga, Lowndes, Dallas, Wilcox, Monroe and Clarke, and is also easily accessible to portions of the great coal domains by short railway lines. Appreciating this fact, a line is soon to be constructed between the Cahaba coalfields and Selma, where vast advantages will be enjoyed for easy and cheap transportation to the Mexican Gulf, and thence to distant portions of the world. From Selma the river is always navigable, however dry the season.

Another line of railway is projected from Montgomery to Brierfield, the purpose of which is so ship the mineral from the Cahaba coalfield to the capital city for manufacturing purposes, as well as for shipment along the deep channel of the Alabama River to Mobile. There is now plying between Montgomery and Mobile a line of steamers, under the auspices of Montgomery Trade Company. They are expected to act in concert with a line of steamers plying between the last-named point and New York.

These items are thus indicated, only to show the relation which this great ventricle of commerce must inevitably bear to the future development of the resources of Alabama.

THE CAHABA RIVER.

This river rises in the midst of the rocky hills of the county of St. Clair. From its source to the point where it empties into the Alabama River, just nineteen miles below Selma, its estimated length is 112 miles. It is important, by reason of the fact that it cuts its way through the deposits of coal and iron in Shelby and Bibb counties, and flows through the prolific lands of Perry and Dallas. There is no reason why the Cahaba, with its volume of water pouring incessantly through the mineral treasures of Central Alabama, and mingling with the deep waters of the Alabama which flow into the Gulf, may not become a thoroughfare of vast importance to the interior of the State.

The Cahaba is now scarcely navigable for boats, though steamers have ascended the river eighty miles, to Centerville.

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This an indication of what may be accomplished at slight governmental expense. Besides the benefits derived from the Cahaba mineral regions, there are vast quantities of cotton grown contiguous to the river, which would find a convenient mode of transportation, were the stream rendered navigable. Like all other rivers of this region, the Cahaba wends its way through vast forests of the most valuable oak, hickory, poplar, pine and cypress.

THE COOSA RIVER.

The river which bears the above name, like most of the larger streams of Alabama, is the result of the junction of others. Amid the mountains of Northern Georgia, there rise two streams, known as the Oostanaula and Etowah Rivers. Both these flow toward the southwest, and at Rome, Georgia, they unite and form the beautiful Coosa. This was the river whose valley so charmed DeSoto, as far back as 1540, that after his disastrous conflict at Maubila, he wanted to return and colonize it.

The Coosa is navigable from Rome to Greensport, on the north, and from Wetumpka to its mouth, on the south, leaving an intervening distance of 137 miles that is not navigable. With the river cleared of its hindrances to navigation, there would be opened up a waterway from Mobile to Rome, Georgia, of 854 miles. This grand waterway would drain more than 28,000 square miles of territory in Georgia and Alabama, unsurpassed in richness of soil and mineral wealth. The Coosa River flows through that section of Alabama where the immense coalfields lie side by side with extensive beds of iron ore, of several varieties and finest qualities. In the same neighborhood, are found, in exhaustless supplies, sandstone, limestone and fireclay.

All things considered, the opening up of no waterway in Alabama would spread all around more industry, prosperity and wealth, than that of the Coosa.

THE TALLAPOOSA RIVER,

Which unites with the Coosa, and forms the Alabama, rises in the western portion of Georgia. It is a stream of rapid and perpetual flow; and because of the rapidity of its descent, it affords

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excellent water-power. At different points along the line of this historic and romantic stream, may be found miles of cascades, the roar of which may be heard at a great distance. One of these remarkable falls is found at Tallassee. This immense water-power suggests its utility at no distant day in the manufactures.

THE CHATTAHOOCHEE RIVER.

The Chattahoochee rises among the Blue Ridge Mountains, in extreme Northwestern Georgia, and flows southwest to the Alabama line. For more than 100 miles it forms the eastern boundary of Alabama, and bears considerable commercial relations to the counties of Chambers, Lee, Russell, Barbour, and Henry. It is navigable as high as Girard, Alabama. On the opposite side of the stream, at this point, is located the city of Columbus, Georgia, which has become noted as a manufacturing center in the South.

A large portion of the territory drained by the Chattahoochee possesses fine advantages. Vast districts of superior lands for tillage exist; while immense forests of pine, cypress, and cedar prevail. Flowing across the Florida line, the Chattahoochee empties into the Appalachicola river.

THE CHOCTAWATCHEE RIVER.

This clear and beautiful stream, together with its principal tributary, the Pea River, drains the southeastern corner of the State. It is navigable for steamers as high as Geneva, in Geneva county, Alabama. Besides affording transportation to this section of the State, it is largely used for rafting purposes.

THE CONECUH RIVER.

The stream which bears this name, together with its chief tributaries, Patsaliga and Sepulga rivers, and Murder Creek, drains the southern portion of the State, between the Choctawhatchee, and Alabama. Small steamers have ascended this river, during the high water season, as far as Andalusia. The river has been extensively used for many years by lumbermen, whose timbers are easily floated to Pensacola, along the Conecuh and

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Escambia Rivers. One of the chief attractions of the clear streams of this section is the quantity of fish to be obtained from them. As fine trout as ever sported in mountain streams are obtained from the creeks and rivers of South Alabama.

Of course, in this brief review of the river system of Alabama, many of the subordinate streams have been omitted; only such as had special signficance in every geographical section of the State have received any notice in this hurried sketch.

Enough has been presented, however, to demonstrate the fact that Alabama is second to no State in the Union in the extent and importance of its waterways. When, through government appropriations, the natural barriers which now exist shall have been removed, the waterways of this Commonwealth will be one of the chief factors of her prosperity.

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Altitudes of Cities and Towns on Railways in Alabama.

THE heights of points on several of the railroad lines as obtained by the engineers in locating the lines above the sea level, are correct and of interest to all resident citizens or those seeking homes in Alabama, as follows:

ON LOUISVILLE AND NASHVILLE RAILWAY FROM MONTGOMERY TO STATE LINE.

Height of Montgomery above sea level 162 feet.
Height of Coosada above sea level 175 feet.
Height of Elmore above sea level 199 feet.
Height of Deatsville above sea level 300 feet.
Height of Mountain Creek above sea level 542 feet.
Height of Verbena above sea level 450 feet.
Height of Cooper's above sea level 458 feet.
Height of Clanton above sea level 596 feet.
Height of Lomax above sea level 625 feet.
Height of Jemison above sea level 706 feet.
Height of Clear Creek above sea level 540 feet.
Height of Calera above sea level 502 feet.
Height of Whiting above sea level 555 feet.
Height of Silura above sea level 464 feet.
Height of Pelham above sea level 427 feet.
Height of Helena above sea level 400 feet.
Height of Brock's above sea level 564 feet.
Height of Oxmoor above sea level 652 feet.
Height of Birmingham above sea level 602 feet.
Height of Blount Springs above sea level 434 feet.
Height of Cullman above sea level 802 feet.
Height of Milner's above sea level 470 feet.

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Height of Wilhite's above sea level 608 feet.
Height of Flint above sea level 568 feet.
Height of Decatur above sea level 577 feet.
Height of Athens above sea level 709 feet.
Height of Elkmont above sea level 796 feet.
Height of Veto above sea level 610 feet.

ALTITUDES OF STATIONS ON THE ALABAMA MIDLAND AND ITS TWO BRANCH ROADS.

Height of Alaga above sea level 105 feet.
Height of Gordon above sea level 165 feet.
Height of Pansey above sea level 203 feet.
Height of Ashford above sea level 240 feet.
Height of Cowarts above sea level 260 feet.
Height of Dothan above sea level 360 feet.
Height of Abbeville Junction above sea level 360 feet.
Height of Midland City above sea level 355 feet.
Height of Pinckard above sea level 370 feet.
Height of Newton above sea level 215 feet.
Height of Ozark above sea level 415 feet.
Height of Dillard above sea level 308 feet.
Height of Ariosto above sea level 420 feet.
Height of Tennille above sea level 300 feet.
Height of Brundridge above sea level 380 feet.
Height of Banks above sea level 555 feet.
Height of Troy above sea level 545 feet.
Height of Youngbloods above sea level 345 feet.
Height of Ansley above sea level 445 feet.
Height of Shady Grove above sea level 410 feet.
Height of Grady above sea level 430 feet.
Height of Ramer above sea level 455 feet.
Height of Sprague Junction above sea level 250 feet.
Height of LeGrand above sea level 235 feet.
Height of Tharin above sea level 230 feet.
Height of Snowdoun above sea level 280 feet.
Height of Dermid above sea level 180 feet.
Height of Shops above sea level 185 feet.
Height of Montgomery above sea level 185 feet.

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LUVERNE BRANCH OF MIDLAND.

Height of Luverne above sea level 365 feet.
Height of Patsburg above sea level 340 feet.
Height of Petrey above sea level 390 feet.
Height of Bradleyton above sea level 415 feet.
Height of Lapine above sea level 435 feet.
Height of Naftel above sea level 490 feet.
Height of Sellers above sea level 320 feet.
Height of Ada above sea level 340 feet.
Height of Junction above sea level 250 feet.

ABBEVILLE SOUTHERN RAILWAY OF MIDLAND.

Height of Junction above sea level 360 feet.
Height of Headland above sea level 360 feet.
Height of Wells above sea level 387 feet.
Height of Camps above sea level 345 feet.
Height of Abbeville above sea level 402 feet.

ALTITUDES OF ALABAMA, PENSACOLA AND MOBILE AND MONTGOMERY RAILWAY.

Height of Pensacola above sea level 5 feet.
Height of Pensacola Junction above sea level 30 feet.
Height of Montgomery above sea level 165 feet.

ALTITUDES ON MONTGOMERY AND WESTERN RAILROAD.

Height of Montgomery above sea level 165 feet.
Height of Fort Decatur above sea level 315 feet.
Height of Chehaw above sea level 252 feet.
Height of Opelika above sea level 812 feet.
Height of Summit above sea level 847 feet.
Height of West Point above sea level 415 feet.

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ALTITUDES ON ALABAMA GREAT SOUTHERN.

Height of Cuba, Sumter county, above sea level 200 feet.
Height of York, Sumter county, above sea level 140 feet.
Height of Livingston, Sumter county, above sea level 120 feet.
Height of Eutaw, Greene county, above sea level 171 feet.
Height of Tuscaloosa, Tuscaloosa county, above sea level 162 ft.
Height of Woodstock, Bibb county, above sea level 500 feet.
Height of Jonesboro above sea level 503 feet.
Height of Trussville above sea level 683 feet.
Height of Springville above sea level 708 feet.
Height of Attalla above sea level 552 feet.
Height of Collinsville above sea level 719 feet.
Height of Brandon above sea level 877 feet.
Height of Fort Payne above sea level 864 feet.
Height of Valley Head, DeKalb county, above sea level 1058 ft.

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ALABAMA SCHOOLS FOR THE DEAF AND BLIND.

THROUGH the liberality of the State Legislature the three below named schools have been established and annual appropriations made to keep them in fine working condition. Talladega county is a fine agricultural as well as mineral section. The city of Talladega noted for its healthfulness and enterprises.

INSTITUTE FOR THE DEAF.

The property of the State, known as the "Institute for the Deaf," is within a quarter of a mile of the public square of the city of Talladega, embraces seventeen acres of land, five substantial brick buildings, two, three and four stories high.

The Main Building is a four-story brick, with slate roof; in this building are the girls' dormitories, sitting-rooms, sewing-rooms, bath-rooms; in this building, also are teachers' and officers' quarters, reception rooms, parlors, etc., the Superintendent's office and apartments.

To the right of the Main Building is the School Building, a three-story brick, slate roof. Here are the class rooms and chapel, and, on the third floor, boys' dormitories and hospital.

To the left of the Main Building is a four-story brick, slate roof, containing boys' dormitories, study-halls, sitting-rooms and bath-rooms.

In the rear of the Main Building, and at a little distance from it, is the "Mechanical Department," a two-story brick, metal roof; in this building we have a steam boiler and engine to furnish power for wood-working machinery, printing-presses, sewing-machines, etc. The printing-office, cabinet-shop and shoe shop are all in this building; a steam laundry, perfect in its appointments, occupies one end of the ground floor.

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ACADEMY FOR THE BLIND.

This property lies one-half mile east of the Institute for the Deaf, on the same street. It consists of six acres of land and three handsome, new brick buildings.

The Main Building, an imposing three-story brick, with slate and metal roof, stands on the highest ground and near the center of the lot. In this building we have the chapel, dining-room, boys' and girls' dormitories, sitting-rooms, study-halls and music-rooms, boys' and girls' hospitals, teachers and officers' quarters, reception rooms and Superintendent's business office.

To the right, and in front of the Main Building, is the School Building, a two-story brick, with basement, containing class-rooms, music-rooms, library, etc.,, also boys' dormitory and sitting-room.

Immediately to the right of the Main Building is a two-story brick, slate roof, containing shops, laundry-room, bath-room, and boiler-room, in which our steam plant is located.

All three of these buildings are comfortably heated by steam, lighted by gas from the city gas works. We are also supplied with water from the city water works, and have an abundant supply for all purposes.

SCHOOL FOR NEGRO DEAF-MUTES AND BLIND.

The building for this school is a handsome three-story and basement, brick building, covered with slate and trimmed with stone, elegantly furnished throughout. The lot embraces eight (8) acres, and is a fine site for a public building. It will accommodate seventy-five pupils.

In all of these schools there is a Mechanical or Industrial Department, where the pupils are given trades, by means of which they may become entirely, or in part, self-supporting.

At the Institute for the Deaf the boys are taught general habits of industry: they receive special instruction at the following trades; printing, shoe-making, cabinet and carpenter work, house painting, vegetable and landscape gardening; the girls are taught house-work, plain and machine sewing, dress-making, cutting and fitting, crocheting, house-cleaning, etc.

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At the Academy for the Blind the boys are taught mattress-making, cane-seating, collar-making, basket-making, piano-tuning and repairing, etc. The girls also learn cane-seating, in addition to sewing, knitting, crocheting, house-cleaning, etc.

These several arts and trades are run solely for the purpose of benefitting the pupils, and while there is some little revenue from some of the branches of trade, they are without exception run at an expense; but this is not allowed to stand in the way of the best interests of the pupils; the provision made for instruction in each branch is in all cases first-class, the trades being carried on in the same way, and viewed in the same light as the literary and musical departments. We consider the industrial department of equal importance, almost if not quite, as the educational department.

The average deaf-mute or blind person, who has no trade to rely upon, is almost certain to make a failure in life. Many such, who could never hope to command more than from eight to fifteen dollars per month, as common laborers, with their trades learned in school often make that much per week.

All letters and packages should be directed in care of the "Institution for the Deaf," or the "Academy for the Blind," or "School for Negro Deaf and Blind," Talladega, Ala.

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ALABAMA STATE OFFICERS.

THOS. G. JONES,
Governor.

J. D. BARRON,
Secretary of State.

JOHN PURIFOY,
Auditor.

J. CRAIG SMITH,
Treasurer.

W. L. MARTIN,
Attorney-General.

J. G. HARRIS,
Superintendent of Education.

GEORGE W. STONE,
Chief Justice Supreme Court.

THOS. N. McCLELLAN,
Associate Justice Supreme Court.

THOS. W. COLEMAN,
Associate Justice Supreme Court.

J. B. HEAD,
Associate Justice Supreme Court.

JON. HARALSON,
Associate Justice Supreme Court.

Organization of Department of Agriculture and Immigration.

HECTOR D. LANE,
Commissioner.

L. A. SMITH,
Chief Clerk.

MAJ. T. J. KEY,
Assistant Clerk.

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CONSTITUTION

OF THE

STATE OF ALABAMA.

PREAMBLE.

We, the people of the State of Alabama, in order to establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare and secure to ourselves and to our posterity, life, liberty, and property, profundly grateful to Almighty God for this inestimable right and invoking His favor and guidance, do ordain and establish the following Constitution and form of government for the State of Alabama:

ARTICLE I.

DECLARATION OF RIGHTS.

That the great, general and essential principles of liberty and free government may be recognized and established, we declare

1. That all men are equally free and independent; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty and the pursuits of happiness.

2. That all persons resident in this State, born in the United States, or naturalized, or who shall have legally declared their intention to become citizens of the United States, are hereby declared citizens of the State of Alabama, possessing equal civil and political rights.

3. That all political power is inherent in the people, and all free governments are founded in their authority, and instituted for their benefit; and that, therefore, they have at all times an inalienable and indefeasible right to change their form of government, in such manner as they may deem expedient.

4. That no religion shall be established by law; that no preference shall be given by law to any religious sect, society, denomination, or mode of worship; that no one shall be compelled by law to attend any place of worship, nor to pay any tithes, taxes or other rate for the building or repairing any place of worship, or for maintaining any minister or ministry; that no religious test shall be required as a qualification to any office or public trust, under this State; and that the civil rights, privileges and capacities of any citizens shall not be in any manner affected by his religious principles.

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5. That any citizen may speak, write, and publish his sentiments on all subjects, being responsible for the abuse of that liberty.

6. That the people shall be secure in their persons, homes, papers, and possessions, from unreasonable seizures or searches, and that no warrant shall issue to search any place, or to seize any person or thing without probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation.

7. That in all criminal prosecutions, the accused has a right to be heard by himself and counsel, or either; to demand the nature and cause of the accusation; to have a copy thereof; to be confronted by the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor; and in all prosecutions by indictment a speedy, public trial, by an impartial jury of the county or district in which the offense was committed; and that he shall not be compelled to give evidence against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, but by due process of law.

8. That no person shall be accused, or arrested, or detained, except in cases ascertained by law, and according to the forms which the same has prescribed; and no person shall be punished, but by virtue of a law established and promulgated prior to the offense, and legally applied.

9. That no person shall, for any indictable offense, be proceeded against criminally, by information; except in cases arising in the malitia and volunteer forces when in actual service, or, by leave of the court, for misfeasance, misdemeanor, extortion and oppression in office, otherwise than is provided in this Constitution; *Provided*, That in case of petit larceny, assault, assault and battery, affray, unlawful assemblies, vagrancy, and other misdemeanors, the General Assembly may, by law, dispense with a grand jury, and authorize such prosecutions and proceedings before justices of the peace, or such other inferior courts as may be by law established.

10. That no person shall, for the same offense, be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb.

11. That no person shall be barred from prosecuting or defending, before any tribunal in this State, by himself or counsel, any civil cause to which he is a party.

12. That the right of trial by jury shall remain inviolate.

13. That in prosecutions for the publications of papers investigating the official conduct of officers or men in public capacity, or when the matter published is proper for public information, the truth thereof may be given in evidence; and that in all indictments for libel, the jury shall have the right to determine the law and the facts, under the direction of the court.

14. That all courts shall be open; and that every person, for any injury done him, in his lands, goods, person or reputation, shall have a remedy by due process of law; and right and justice shall be administered without sale, denial, or delay.

15. That the State of Alabama shall never be made a defendant in any court of law or equity.

16. That excessive fines shall not be imposed, nor cruel or unusual punishments inflicted.

17. That all persons shall, before conviction, be bailable by sureties, ex-

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cept for capital offenses, when the proof is evident, or the presumption great; and that excessive bail shall not, in any case, be required.

18. That the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus* shall not be suspended by the authorities of this State.

19. That treason against the State shall consist only in levying war against it, or adhering to its enemies, giving them aid and comfort; and that no person shall be convicted of treason, except on the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act, or his confession in open court.

20. That no person shall be attainted of treason by the General Assembly; and that no conviction shall work corruption of blood or forfeiture of estate.

21. That no person shall be imprisoned for debt.

22. That no power of suspending laws shall be exercised, except by the General Assembly.

23. That no *expost facto* law, or any law, impairing the obligation of contracts, or making any irrevocable grants of special privileges, or immunities, shall be passed by the General Assembly.

24. That the exercise of the right of eminent domain shall never be abridged nor so construed as to prevent the General Assembly from taking the property and franchises of incorporated companies, and subjecting them to public use the same as individuals. But private property shall not be taken or applied for public use, unless just compensation be first made therefor; nor shall private property be taken for private use, or the use of corporations, other than municipal, without the consent of the owner; *Provided*, however, that the General Assembly may, by law, secure to persons or corporations the right-of-way over the lands of other persons or corporations, and by general laws provide for and regulate the exercise by persons and corporations of the rights herein reserved, but just compensation shall in all cases, be first made to the owner; and, *provided*, that the right of eminent domain shall not be so construed as to allow taxation or forced subscriptions for the benefit of railroads or any other kind of corporations, other than municipal, or for the benefit of any individual or association.

25. That all navigable waters shall remain forever public highways, free to the citizens of the State, and of the United States, without tax, impost or toll; and that no tax, toll, impost or wharfage, shall be demanded or received from the owner of any merchandise or commodity, for the use of the shores, or any wharf erected in the shores, or in or over the waters of any navigable stream, unless the same be expressly authorized by law.

26. That the citizens have a right, in a peaceable manner, to assemble together for the common good, and to apply to those invested with the power of government for redress of grievances, or other purposes by petition, address or remonstrance.

27. That every citizen has a right to bear arms in defense of himself and State.

28. That no standing army shall be kept up without the consent of the General Assembly, and in that case no appropriation for its support shall be made for a longer term than one year; and the military shall, in all cases and at all times, be in strict subordination to the civil power.

29. That no soldier shall, in time of peace, be quartered in any house

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without the consent of the owner, nor in time of war but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

30. That no title of nobility or hereditary distinction, privilege, honor or emolument shall ever be granted or conferred in this State; and that no office shall be created the appointment to which shall be for a longer time than during good behavior.

31. That immigration shall be encouraged; emmigration shall not be prohibited, and that no citizen shall be exiled.

32. That temporary absence from the State shall not cause a forfeiture of residence once obtained.

33. That no form of slavery shall exist in this State; and there shall be no involuntary servitude, otherwise than for the punishment of crime, of which the party shall have been duly convicted.

34. The right of suffrage shall be protected by laws regulating elections, and prohibiting, under adequate penalties, all undue influences from power, bribery, tumult, or other improper conduct.

35. The people of this State accept as final the established fact, that from the Federal Union there can be no secession of any State.

36. Foreigners, who are or may hereafter become *bona fide* residents of this State shall enjoy the same rights in respect to the possession, enjoyment and inheritauce of property, as native born citizens.

37. That the sole object and only legitimate end of government is to protect the citizen in the enjoyment of life, liberty and property, and when the government assumes other functions, it is usurpation and oppression.

38. No educational or property qualification for suffrage or office, nor any restraint upon the same on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude, shall be made by law.

39. That this enumeration of certain rights shall not impair or deny others retained by the people.

ARTICLE II.

STATE AND COUNTY BOUNDARIES.

1. The boundaries of this State are established and declared to be as follows; that is to say: Beginning at the point where the thirty-first degree of north latitude crosses the Perdido River, thence east to the western boundary line of the State of Georgia; thence along said line to the southern boundary line of the State of Tennessee; crossing the Tennessee River, and on to the second intersection of said river by said line; thence up said river to the mouth of Big Bear creek; thence by a direct line to the northwest corner of Washington county, in this State, as originally formed; thence southerly along the line of the State of Mississippi to the Gulf of Mexico; thence eastwardly, including all islands within six leagues of the shore, to the Perdido River; thence up the said river to the beginning.

2. The boundaries of the several counties of this State, as heretofore established by law, are hereby ratified and confirmed. The General Assembly may, by a vote of two-thirds of both houses thereof, arrange and designate boundaries for the several counties of this State, which boundaries shall not be altered, except by a like vote; but no new counties shall be hereafter formed of less extent than six hundred square miles, and no existing county

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shall be reduced to less extent than six hundred square miles; and no new county shall be formed which does not contain a sufficient number of inhabitants to entitle it to one representative, under the ratio of representation existing at the time of its formation, and leave the county or counties from which it is taken with the required number of inhabitants entitling such county or counties to separate representation.

ARTICLE III.

DISTRIBUTION OF POWERS OF GOVERNMENT.

1. The powers of the government of the State of Alabama shall be divided into three distinct departments, each of which shall be confided to a separate body of magistracy, to-wit: Those which are legislative to one; those which are executive to another; and those which are judicial, to another.

2. No person, or collection of persons, being of one of those departments, shall exercise any power properly belonging to either of the others, except in the instances hereinafter expressly directed or permitted.

ARTICLE IV.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

1. The legislative power of this State shall be vested in a General Assembly, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

2. The style of the laws of this State shall be: "Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Alabama." Each law shall contain but one subject, which shall be clearly expressed in its title, except general appropriation bills, general revenue bills, and bills adopting a code, digest or revision of statutes; and no law shall be revived, amended, or the provisions thereof extended or conferred, by reference to its title only; but so much thereof as is revised, amended, extended or conferred, shall be re-enacted and published at length.

3. Senators and Representatives shall be elected by the qualified electors on the first Monday in August, eighteen hundred and seventy-six, and one half of the Senators and all of the Representatives shall be elected every two years thereafter, unless the General Assembly shall change the time of holding elections. The terms of the office of the Senators shall be four years, and that of the Representatives two years, commencing on the day after the general election, except as otherwise provided in this Constitution.

4. Senators shall be at least twenty-seven years of age, and Representatives twenty-one years of age; they shall have been citizens and inhabitants of this State for three years, and inhabitants of their respective counties or districts one year next before their election, if such county or district shall have been so long established, but if not, then of the county or district from which the same shall have been taken; and they shall reside in their respective counties or districts during their terms of service.

5. The General Assembly shall meet biennially, at the capitol, in the Senate Chamber and in the Hall of the House of Representatives, (except in cases of destruction of the capitol, or epidemics, when the Governor may convene them at such place in the State as he may deem best), on the day specified in this Constitution, or on such other day as may be prescribed by law, and shall not remain in session longer than sixty days at the first ses-

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sion held under this Constitution, nor longer than fifty days at any subsequent session.

6. The pay of the members of the General Assembly shall be four dollars per day, and ten cents per mile in going to and returning from the seat of government, to be computed by the nearest usual route travelled.

7. The General Assembly shall consist of not more than thirty-three Senators, and not more than one hundred members of the House of Representatives, to be apportioned among the several districts and counties as prescribed in this Constitution.

8. The Senate, at the beginning of each regular session, and at such other times as may be necessary, shall elect one of its members President thereof, and the House of Representatives, at the beginning of each regular session, shall elect one of its members as Speaker, and the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall hold their offices, respectively, until their successors are elected and qualified. Each House shall choose its own officers, and shall judge of the election returns and qualifications of its members.

9. At the general election, in the year eighteen hundred and seventy-six, Senators shall be elected in the even-numbered districts, to serve for two years, and in the odd-numbered districts to serve for four years, so that hereafter one-half the Senators may be chosen biennially. Members of the House of Repressntatives shall be elected at the general election every second year. The time of service of Senators and Representatives shall begin on the day after the election, except the terms of those elected in the year eighteen hundred and seventy-six, which shall not begin until the terms of the present members shall have expired. Whenever a vacancy shall occur in either House, the Governor for the time being shall issue a writ of election to fill such vacancy for the remainder of the term.

10. A majority of each House shall constitute a quorum to do business, but a smaller number may adjourn, from day to day, and may compel the attendance of absent members, in such manner and under such penalties, as each House may provide.

11. Each House shall have power to determine the rules of its proceedings, and to punish its members, or other persons, for contempt or disorderly behavior in its presence, to enforce obedience to its process, to protect its members against violence, or offers of bribes or corrupt solicitation, and with the concurrence of two-thirds of either House to expel a member, but not a second time for the same cause, and shall have all the powers necessary for the Legislature of a free State.

12. A member of either House expelled for corruption shall not thereafter be eligible to either House, and punishment for contempt or disorderly behavior shall not bar an indictment for the same offense.

13. Each House shall keep a journal of its proceedings, and cause the same to be published immediately after its adjournment, excepting such parts as, in its judgment may require secrecy ; and the yeas and nays of the members of either House, on any question shall, at the desire of one-tenth of the members present, be entered on the journals. Any member of either House shall have liberty to dissent from or protest against any act or resolu-

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tion which he may think injurious to the public or an individual, and have the reasons for his dissent entered in the journals.

14. Members of the General Assembly shall, in all cases except treason, felony, violation of their oath of office and breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest during their attendance at the sessions of their respective Houses, and in going to and returning from the same; and for any speech or debate in either House they shall not be questioned in any other place.

15. The doors of each House shall be open, except on such occasions as, in the opinion of the house, may require secrecy.

16. Neither house shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other place than that in which they may be sitting.

17. No Senator or Representative shall, during the term for which he shall have been elected, be appointed to any civil office of profit under this State, which shall have been created, or the emoluments of which shall have been increased during such term, except such offices as may be filled by election by the people.

18. No person hereafter convicted of embezzlement of the public money, bribery, purjery, or other infamous crime, shall be eligible to the General Assembly, or capable of holding any office of trust or profit in this State.

19. No law shall be passed except by bill, and no bill shall be so altered or amended on its passage through either house as to change its original purpose.

20. No bill shall become a law until it shall have been referred to a committee of each house and returned therefrom.

21. Every bill shall be read on three different days in each house, and no bill shall become a law unless on its final passage it be read at length, and the vote be taken by ayes and nays, the names of the members voting for and against the same be entered on the journals, and a majority of each house be recorded thereon as voting in its favor, except as otherwise provided in this Constitution.

22. No amendments to bills by one house shall be concurred in by the other, except by a vote of the majority thereof, taken by yeas and nays, and the names of those voting for and against recorded upon the journals; and reports of committees of conference shall in like manner be adopted in each house.

23. No special or local law shall be enacted for the benefit of individuals or corporations in cases which are or can be provided for by a general law, or where the relief sought can be given by any court of this State; nor shall the operation of any general law be suspended by the General Assembly for the benefit of any individual, corporation or association.

24. No local or special law shall be passed, on a subject which can not be provided for by a general law, unless notice of the intention to apply therefor shall have been published in the locality where the matter or things to be affected may be situated, which notice shall be at least twenty days prior to the introduction into the General Assembly of such bill, and the evidence of such notice having been given, shall be exhibited to the General Assembly, before such bill shall be passed; *Provided*, that the provisions of this Constitution, as to special or local laws, shall not apply to public or educa-

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tional institutions of or in this State, nor to industrial, mining, immigration or manufacturing corporations or interests, or corporations for constructing canals, or improving navigable rivers or harbors of this State.

25. The General Assembly shall pass general laws, under which local and private interests shall be provided for and protected.

26. The General Assembly shall have no power to authorize lotteries or gift enterprises for any purpose, and shall pass laws to prohibit the sale of lottery or gift enterprise tickets, or tickets in any scheme in the nature of a lottery, in this State; and all acts, or parts of acts, heretofore passed by the General Assembly of this State, authorizing a lottery or lotteries, and all acts amendatory thereof, or supplemental thereto, are hereby avoided.

27. The presiding officer of each house shall, in the presence of the house over which he presides, sign all bills and joint resolutions passed by the General Assembly, after the titles have been publicly read immediately before signing, and the fact of signing shall be entered on the journal.

28. The General Assembly shall prescribe by law the number, duties and compensation of the officers and employees of each House; and no payment shall be made from the State Treasury, or be in any way authorized to any person, except to an acting officer or employe, elected or appointed in pursuance of law.

29. No bill shall be passed giving any extra compensation to any public officer, servant or employe, agent or contractor, after the services shall have been rendered, or contract made; nor shall any officer of the State bind the State to the payment of any sum of money but by authority of law.

30. All stationery, printing, paper and fuel used in the legislative and other departments of government, shall be furnished, and the printing, binding and distribution of laws, journals, department reports, and all other printing and binding, and repairing and furnishing the halls and rooms used for the meetings of the General Assembly and its committees, shall be performed under contract, to be given to the lowest responsible bidder below a maximum price, and under such regulations as shall be prescribed by law; no member or officer of any department of the government shall be in any way interested in such contracts, and all such contracts shall be subject to the approval of the Governor, State Auditor and State Treasurer.

31. All bills for raising revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives; but the Senate may propose amendments, as in other bills.

32. The General Appropriation Bill shall embrace nothing but appropriations for the ordinary expenses of the Executive, Legislative and Judicial departments of the State, interest on the public debt, and for the public schools; all other appropriations shall be made by separate bills, each embracing but one subject.

33. No money shall be paid out of the Treasury except upon appropriations made by law, and on warrant drawn by the proper officer in pursuance thereof: and a regular statement and account of receipts and expenditures of all public moneys shall be published annually, in such manner as may be by law directed.

34. No appropriation shall be made to any charitable or educational institution not under the absolute control of the State, other than Normal schools,

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established by law for the professional training of teachers for the public schools of the State, except by a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each House.

35. No act of the General Assembly shall authorize the investment of any trust fund by executors, administrators, guardians, and other trustees, in the bonds or stock of any private corporation; and any such acts now existing are avoided, saving investments heretofore made.

36. The power to change the venue, in civil and criminal causes, is vested in the courts, to be exercised in such manner as shall be provided by law.

37. When the General Assembly shall be convened in special session, there shall be no legislation upon subjects other than those designated in the proclamation of the Governor calling such sessions.

38. No State office shall be continued or created for the inspection or measuring of any merchandise, manufacture or commodity; but any county or municipality may appoint such officers, when authorized by law.

39. No act of the General Assembly changing the seat of government of the State shall become a law until the same shall have been submitted to the qualified electors of the State at a general election, and approved by a majority of such electors of the State at a general election, and approved by a majority of such electors voting on the same, and such act shall specify the proposed new location.

40. A member of the General Assembly who shall corruptly solicit, demand or receive, or consent to receive, directly or indirectly, for himself, or for another, from any company, corporation or person, any money, office, appointment, employment, reward, thing of value or enjoyment, or of personal advantage or promise thereof, for his vote or official influence, or for withholding the same, or with an understanding, expressed or implied, that his vote or official action shall be in any way influenced thereby, or who shall solicit or demand any such money or other advantages, matter or thing aforesaid for another, as the consideration of his vote or official influence, or for withholding the same, or shall give or withhold his vote or influence in consideration of the payment or promise of such money, advantage, matter or thing to another, shall be guilty of bribery within the meaning of this Constitution, and shall incur the disabilities provided for such offense, and such additional punishment as is, or shall be provided by law.

41. Any member who shall, directly or indirectly, offer, give or promise any money or thing of value, testimonial, privilege or personal advantage to any executive or judicial officer, or member of the General Assembly, to influence him in the performance of any of his public or official duties, shall be guilty of bribery and be punished in such manner as shall be provided by law.

42. The offense of corrupt solicitation of members of the General Assembly, or of public officers of this State, or of any municipal division thereof, and any occupation or practice of solicitation of such member, or officers, to influence their official action, shall be defined by law, and shall be punished by fine and imprisonment.

43. A member of the General Assembly, who has a personal or private interest in any measure or bill, proposed or pending before the General As-

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sembly, shall disclose the fact to the House of which he is a member, and shall not vote thereon.

44. In all elections by the General Assembly, the members shall vote *viva voce*, and the votes shall be entered on the journals.

45. It shall be the duty of the General Assembly to pass such laws as may be necessary and proper to decide differences by arbitrators, to be appointed by the parties who may choose that mode of adjustment.

46. It shall be the duty of the General Assembly, at its first session after the ratification of this Constitution, and within every subsequent period of ten years, to make provision by law for the revision, digesting, and promulgating of the public statutes of the State of a general nature, both civil and criminal.

47. The General Assembly shall pass such penal laws as they may deem expedient to suppress the evil practice of duelling.

48. It shall be the duty of the General Assembly to regulate by law the cases in which deductions shall be made from the salaries of public officers, for neglect of duty in their official capacities, and the amount of such deductions.

49. It shall be the duty of the General Assembly to require the several counties of this State to make adequate provision for the maintenance of the poor.

50. The General Assembly shall not have power to authorize any municipal corporation to pass any laws inconsistent with the general laws of this State.

51. In the event of annexation of any foreign territory to this State, the General Assembly shall enact laws extending to the inhabitants of the acquired territory all the rights and privileges which may be required by the terms of the acquisition, anything in this Constitution to the contrary notwithstanding.

52. The General Assembly shall not tax the property, real or personal, of the State, counties, and other municipal corporations, or cemetaries; nor lots in incorporated cities or towns, or within one mile of any city or town, to the extent of one acre, nor lots one mile or more distant from such cities or towns, to the extent of five acres, with the building thereon, when the same are used exclusively for religious worship, for schools, or for purposes purely charitable; nor such property, real or personal, to an extent not exceeding twenty-five thousand dollars in value, as may be used exclusively for agricultural or horticultural associations of a public character.

53. The General Assembly shall by law prescribe such rules and regulations as may be necessary to ascertain the value of personal and real property exempted from sale under legal process by this Constitution, and to secure the same to the claimant thereof selected.

54. The State shall not engage in works of internal improvement, nor lend money or its credit in aid of such; nor shall the State be interested in any private or corporate enterprise, or lend money, or its credit to any individual, association or corporation.

55. The General Assembly shall have no power to authorize any county, city, town, or other subdivision of this State, to lend its credit, or to grant public money or thing of value in aid of, or to any individual, association

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or corporation whatever, or to become a stockholder in any such corporation, association or company, by issuing bonds or otherwise.

56. There can be no law of this State impairing the obligation of contracts by destroying or impairing the remedy for their enforcement; and the General Assembly shall have no power to revive any right or remedy which may have become barred by lapse of time or by any statute of this State.

ARTICLE V.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT.

1. The Executive Department shall consist of a Governor, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, State Auditor, Attorney General, and Superintendant of Education, and a Sheriff for each county.

2. The supreme executive power of this State shall be vested in a Chief Magistrate, who shall be styled "The Governor of the State of Alabama."

3. The Governor, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, State Auditor, and Attorney General, shall be elected by the qualified electors of this State, at the same time and places appointed for the election of members of the General Assembly.

4. The returns of every election for Governor, Secretary of State, State Auditor, State Treasurer, and Attorney General, shall be sealed up and transmitted by the returning officers to the seat of government, directed to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, who shall, during the first week of the session to which said returns shall be made, open and publish them in the presence of both houses of the General Assembly in joint convention. The persons having the highest number of votes for either of said offices shall be declared duly elected; but, if two or more shall have an equal and the highest number of votes for the same office, the General Assembly, by joint vote, without delay, shall choose one of said persons for said office. Contested elections for Governor, Secretary of State, State Auditor, State Treasurer, and Attorney General, shall be determined by both houses of the General Assembly, in such manner as may be prescribed by law.

5. The Governor, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, State Auditor, and Attorney General, shall hold their respective offices for the term of two years from the time of their installation in office, and until their successors shall be elected and qualified.

6. The Governor shall be at least thirty years of age when elected, and shall have been a citizen of the United States ten years, and a resident citizen of this State at least seven years next before the day of his election.

7. The Governor, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, State Auditor, and Attorney General, shall reside at the seat of government of this State during the time they continue in office, except in cases of epidemics; and they shall receive compensation for their services, which shall be fixed by law, and which shall not be increased or diminished during the term for which they shall have been elected.

8. The Governor shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed.

9. The Governor may require information in writing under oath, from the officers of the Executive Department on any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices; and may at any time require information in wri-

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ting, under oath, from all officers and managers of State institutions, upon any subject relating to the condition, management and expenses of their respective offices and institutions; and any such officer or manager who makes a false report shall be guilty of perjury and punished accordingly.

10. The Governor may, by proclamation, on extraordinary occasions, convene the General Assembly at the seat of government, or at a different place if, since their last adjournment, that shall have become dangerous from an enemy, or from infectious or contagious diseases; and he shall state specifically in such proclamation each matter concerning which the action of that body is deemed necessary.

11. The Governor shall, from time to time, give to the General Assembly information of the state of the government, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he may deem expedient; and at the commencement of each session of the General Assembly, and at the close of his term of office, give information, by written message, of the condition of the State; and he shall account to the General Assembly, as may be prescribed by law, for all moneys received and paid out by him from any funds subject to his order, with the vouchers therefor; and he shall, at the commencement of each regular session, present to the General Assembly estimates of the amount of money required to be raised by taxation for all purposes.

12. The Governor shall have power to remit fines and forfeitures, under such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by law, and after conviction, to grant reprieves, commutation of sentence, and pardons (except in cases of treason and impeachment); but pardons in cases of murder, arson, burglary, rape, assault with attempt to commit rape, perjury, forgery, bribery, and larceny, shall not relieve from civil and political disability unless specifically expressed in the pardon. Upon conviction of treason, the Governor may suspend the execution of the sentence, and report the same to the General Assembly at the next regular session, when the General Assembly shall either pardon, commute the sentence, direct its execution, or grant further reprieve. He shall communicate to the General Assembly at every regular session, each case of reprieve, commutation or pardon granted, with his reasons therefor; stating the name and crime of the convict, the sentence, its date and the date of reprieve, commutation or pardon.

13. Every bill which shall have passed both Houses of the General Assembly shall be presented to the Governor; if he approve, he shall sign it, but if not, he shall return it with his objections, to that House in which it shall have originated, who shall enter the objections at large upon the journals, and the House to which such bill shall be returned shall proceed to reconsider it; if, after such reconsideration a majority of the whole number elected to that House shall vote for the passage of such bill, it shall be sent, with the objections to the other House, by which it shall likewise be reconsidered; if approved by a majority of the whole number elected to that House, it shall become a law; but, in such cases, the votes of both Houses shall be determined by yeas and nays, and the names of the members voting for or against the bill shall be entered upon the journals of each House respectively. If any bill shall not be returned by the Governor within five days, Sundays excepted, after it shall have been presented to him, the same shall be a law in like manner as if he had signed it, unless the General As-

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sembly by their adjournment, prevent its return, in which case it shall not be a law. And every order, vote or resolution to which the concurrence of both Houses may be necessary (except questions of adjournment and of bringing on elections for the two Houses, and of amending this Constitution) shall be presente d to the Governor and before the same shall take effect be approved by him, or being disapproved, shall be repassed by both Houses, according to the rules and limitations prescribed in the case of a bill.

14. The Governor shall have power to disapprove of any item or items of any bill making appropriations of money, embracing distinct items, and the part, or parts, of the bill approved, shall be the law, and the item or items of appropriation disapproved shall be void, unless repassed according to the rules and limitations prescribed for the passage of other bills over the Executive veto; and he shall, in writing state specifically the item or items he disapproves.

15. In case of the impeachment of the Governor, his removal from office, death, refusal to qualify, resignation, absence from the State, or other disability, the President of the Senate shall exercise all the power and authority appertaining to the office of Governor, until the time appointed for the election of Governor shall arrive, or until the Governor who is absent, or impeached, shall retu rn or be acquitted, or other disability be removed; and if during such vacancy in the office of Governor, the President of the Senate shall be impeached, removed fro m office, refuse to qualify, die, resign, be absent from the State, or be under any other disability, the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall, in like manner, administer the government. If the Governor shall be absent from the State over twenty days, the Secretary of State shall notify the President of the Senate, who shall enter upon th e duties of Governor; and if the Governor and President of the Senate shall both be absent from the State over twenty days, the Secretary of State shall notify the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and in such case he shall enter upon and discharge the duties of Governor, until the return of the Governor or President of the Senate.

16. The President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives shall, during the time they respectively administer the government, receive the same compensation which the Governor would have received if he h ad been employed in the duties of his office: *Provided*, That if the General Assembly shall be in session during such absence, they, or either of them, shall receive no compensation as members of the General Assembly while acting as Governor.

17. No person shall, at one and the same time, hold the office of Governor of th is State and any other office, civil or military, either under this State, the United States, or any other State or government, except as otherwise provided in this Constitution.

18. The Governor shall be commander-in-chief of the militia and volunteer forces of this State, except when they shall be called into the service of the United States, and he may call out the same to execute the laws, suppress insurrection, and repel invasion, but he need not command in person, unless directed to do so by a resolution of the General Assembly; and when acting in the service of the United States, he shall appoint his staff, and the Genenal Assembly shall fix his rank.

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19. No person shall be eligible to the office of Secretary of State, State Treasurer, State Auditor, or Attorney General, unless he shall have been a citizen of the United States at least seven years, and shall have resided in this State at least five years next preceding his election, and shall be at least twenty-five years old when elected.

20. There shall be a great seal of the State, which shall be used officially by the Governor; and the seal now in use shall continue to be used until another shall have been adopted by the General Assembly. The said seal shall be called the "Great Seal of the State of Alabama."

21. The Secretary of State shall be the custodian of the seal of the State, and shall authenticate therewith all official acts of the Governor, his approval of laws and resolutions excepted. He shall keep a register of the official acts of the Governor, and when necessary shall attest them, and lay copies of the same together with copies of all papers relative thereto, before either House of the General Assembly, whenever required to do so, and shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by law.

22. All grants and commissions shall be issued in the name, and by the authority of the State of Alabama, sealed with the great seal, and signed by the Governor, and countersigned by the Secretary of State.

23. Should the office of Secretary of State, State Treasurer, State Auditor, Attorney General, or Superintendent of Education, become vacant, for any of the causes specified in section fifteen of this article, the Governor shall fill the vacancy, until the disability is removed, or a successor elected and qualified.

24. The State Treasurer, State Auditor, and Attorney General shall perform such duties as may be prescribed by law. The State Treasurer and State Auditor shall, every year, at a time the General Assembly may fix, make a full and complete report to the Governor, showing all receipts and disbursements of revenue, of every character, all claims audited and paid by the State, by items, and all taxes and revenue collected and paid into the treasury and from what sources; and they shall make reports oftener in any matter pertaining to their office, if required by the Governor, or the General Assembly.

25. The State Auditor, State Treasurer, and Secretary of State, shall not after the expiration of the terms of those now in office, receive to their use any fees, costs, perquisites of office, or compensation, other than their salaries as prescribed by law; and all fees that may be payable by law, for any service performed by either of such officers, shall be paid in advance into the State Treasurer.

26. A Sheriff shall be elected in each county, by the qualified electors thereof, who shall hold his office for the term of four years, unless sooner removed, and shall be ineligible to such office as his own successor; *Provided*, That Sheriffs elected on the first Monday in August, eighteen hundred and seventy-seven, or at such other time as may be prescribed by law for the election in that year, shall hold their offices for the term of three years, and until their successors shall be elected and qualified. In the year 1880, at the general election for members to the General Assembly, Sheriffs shall be elected for four years, as herein provided. Vacancies in the office of Sheriff shall be filled by the Governor, as in other cases; and the person appointed

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shall continue in the office until the next general election in the county for Sheriff, as provided by law.

ARTICLE VI.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

1. The judicial power of the State shall be vested in the Senate, sitting as a Court of Impeachment, a Supreme Court, Circuit Courts, Chancery Court, Courts of Probate, such Inferior Courts of law and equity, to consist of not more than five members, as the General Assembly may from time to time establish, and such persons as may be by law invested with powers of a judicial nature.

2. Except in cases otherwise directed in the Constitution, the Supreme Court shall have appellate jurisdiction only, which shall be co-extensive with the State, under such restrictions and regulations, not repugnant to this Constitution, as may be from time to time prescribed by law. *Provided*, That said Court shall have power to issue rights of injunction, *habeas corpus*, *quo warranto*, and such other remedial and original writs as may be necessary to give it a general superintendence and control of superior jurisdiction.

3. The Supreme Court shall be held at the seat of government, but if that shall have become dangerous from any cause it may adjourn to a different place.

4. The State shall be divided by the General Assembly into convenient circuits, not to exceed eight in number unless increased by a vote of two-thirds of the members of each House of the General Assembly, and no circuit shall contain less than three nor more than twelve counties; and for each circuit there shall be chosen a Judge, who shall, for one year next preceding his election and during his continuance in office, reside in the circuit for which he is elected.

5. The Circuit Court shall have original jurisdiction in all matters, civil and criminal, within the State, not otherwise excepted in the Constitution; but in civil cases only where the matter or sum in controversy exceeds fifty dollars.

6. A Circuit Court shall be held in each county in the State at least twice in every year, and the Judges of the several circuits may hold courts for each other, when they deem it expedient, and shall do so when directed by law; *Provided*, that the Judges of the several Circuit Courts shall have power to issue writs of injunction returnable into Courts of Chancery.

7. The General Assembly shall have power to establish a Court or Courts of Chancery, with original and appellate jurisdiction. The State shall be divided by the General Assembly into convenient chancery divisions, not exceeding three in number, unless an increase shall be made by a vote of two thirds of each House of the General Assembly taken by yeas and nays and entered upon the journals; and the division shall be divided into districts, and for each division there shall be a Chancellor, who shall, at the time of his election or appointment, and during his continuance in office, reside in the division for which he shall have been elected or appointed.

8. A Chancery Court shall be held in each district, at a place to be fixed by law, at least once in each year, and the Chancellors may hold courts for each other, when they deem it necessary.

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9. The General Assembly shall have power to establish in each county within the State a Court of Probate, with general jurisdiction for the granting of letters testamentary and of administration, and for orphans' business.

10. The Judges of the Supreme Court, Circuit Courts, and Chancellors shall, at stated times, receive for their services a compensation, which shall not be diminished during their official terms, but they shall receive no fees or perquisites, nor hold any office (except judicial offices) of profit or trust under this State or the United States, or any other power, during the term for which they have been elected,

11. The Supreme Court shall consist of one Chief-Justice and such number of Associate Justices as may be prescribed by law.

12. The Chief-Justice and Associate Justices of the Supreme Court, Judges of the Circuit Courts, Probate Courts, and Chancellors, shall be elected by the qualified electors of the State, circuits, counties and chancery divisions for which such courts may be established, at such times as may be prescribed by law.

13. The Judges of such inferior courts of law and equity as may be by law established, shall be appointed in such mode as the General Assembly may prescribe.

14. The Judges of the Supreme Court, Circuit Courts, Chancellors, and the Judges of the City Courts, shall have been citizens of the United States and of this State five years next preceding their election or appointment, and shall not be less than twenty-five years of age, and learned in the law.

The Chief Justices and Associate Justices of the Supreme Court, Circuit Judges, Chancellors and Probate Judges shall hold office for the term of six years and until their successors are elected or appointed and qualified; and the right of such judges and chancellors to hold their office for the full time hereby prescribed, shall not be affected by any change hereafter made by law in any circuit, division or county in the mode or time of election.

16. The judges of the Supreme Court shall, by virtue of their offices, be conservators of the peace throughout the State; the judges of the Circuit Courts within their respective circuits, and the judges of the Inferior Courts within their respective jurisdictions, shall in like manner be conservators of the peace.

17. Vacancies in the office of any of the judges or chancellors of this State shall be filled by appointment by the Governor, and such appointee shall hold his office for the unexpired term and until his successor is elected or appointed and qualified.

18. If in any case, civil or criminal, pending in any circuit, chancery or city court in this State, the presiding judge or chancellor shall, for any legal cause be incompetent to try, hear or render judgment in such cause, the parties or their attorneys of record, if it be a civil case, or the solicitor or other prosecuting officer, and the defendant or defendants, if it be a criminal case, may agree upon some disinterested person, practicing in the court and learned in the law, to act as special judge or chancellor, to sit as a court to hear, decide and render judgment in the same manner and to the same effect as a judge of the Circuit or City Court, or chancellor, sitting as a court might do in such case. If the case be a civil one and the parties, or their

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attorneys of record do not agree, or if a case be a criminal one and the prosecuting officer and the defendant or defendants do not agree upon a special judge or chancellor, or if either party in a special cause is not represented in court, the clerk of the Circuit or City Court, or Register in Chancery of the court in which said cause is pending, shall appoint the special judge or chancellor, who shall preside, try and render judgments as in this section provided.

19. The General Assembly shall have power to provide for the holding of circuit and chancery courts in this State, when the judges or chancellors thereof fail to attend regular terms.

20. No judge of any court of record in this State, shall practice law in any of the courts of this State or of the United States.

21. Registers in chancery shall be appointed by the chancellors of the divisions, and shall hold office during the term of the chancellor making such appointment; and such registers shall receive as compensation for their services only such fees and commissions as may be specifically prescribed by law.

22. A clerk of the Supreme Court shall be appointed by the judges thereof and shall hold office during the term of the judges making the appointment, and clerks of such inferior courts as may be established by law, shall he appointed by the judges thereof, and shall hold office during the term of the judge making such appointment.

23. Clerks of the Circuit Court shall be elected by the qualified electors in each county, for the term of six years. Vacancies in such office shall be filled by the Governor for the unexpired term.

24. The clerk of the Supreme Court and Registers in Chancery may be removed from office by the judges of the Supreme Court and Chancellors respectively, for cause, to be entered at length upon the records of the court.

25. A Solicitor for each judicial circuit shall be elected by joint ballot of the General Assembly, who shall be learned in the law, and who shall, at the time of his election, and during his continuance in office, reside in the circuit for which he is chosen. and whose term of office shall be for six years; *Provided*, That the General Assembly, at the first session thereof after the ratification of this Constitution shall, by joint ballot, elect a Solicitor for each judicial circuit of the State, whose term of office shall begin on Tuesday after the first Monday in November, 1876, and continue for four years; *And provided*, That the General Assembly may, when necessary, provide for the election or appointment of county solicitors.

26. There shall be elected by the qualified electors of each precinct of the counties, not exceeding two Justices of the Peace and one Constable. Such justices shall have jurisdiction in all civil cases wherein the amount in controversy does not exceed one hundred dollars, except in cases of libel, slander, assault and battery, and ejectment,

In all cases tried before such justices, the right of appeal, withont repayment of costs, shall be secured by law; *Provided*, That the Governor may appoint one Notary Public for each election precinct in counties, and one for each ward in cities of over five thousand inhabitants, who, in addition to the powers of notary, shall have and exercise the same jurisdiction as justices of the peace within the precincts and wards for which they are respectively

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appointed; *And provided*, That Notaries Public without such jurisdiction may be appointed. The term of office of such Justices and Notaries Public shall be prescribed by law.

27. An Attorney-General shall be elected by the qualified electors of the State at the same time and places of election of members of the General Assembly, whose term of office shall be for two years, and until his successor is elected and qualified. After his election he shall reside at the seat of government, and shall be the law officer of the State, and shall perform such duties as may be required of him by law.

28. The style of all process shall be "The State of Alabama," and all prosecutions shall be carried on in the name and by the authority of the same, and shall conclude "Against the peace and dignity of the State."

ARTICLE VII.

IMPEACHMENTS.

1. The Governor, Secretary of State, Auditor, Treasurer, Attorney-General, Superintendent of Education and Judges of the Supreme Court, may be removed from office for willful neglect of duty, corruption in office, habitual drunkenness, incompetency, or any offense involving moral turpitude while in office, or committed under color thereof or connected therewith, by the Senate, sitting as a court for that purpose, under oath or affirmation, on articles or charges preferred by the House of Representatives.

2. The Chancellors, Judges of the Circuit Courts, Judges of the Probate Courts, Solicitors of the Circuits and Judges of the Inferior Courts, from which an appeal may be taken directly to the Supreme Court, may be removed from office for any of the causes specified in the preceding section, by the Supreme Court, under such regulations as may be prescribed by law.

3. The Sheriffs, Clerks of the Circuit, City or Criminal Courts, Tax Collectors, Tax Assessors, County Treasurers, Coroners, Justices of the Peace, Notaries Public, Constables, and all other county officers, Mayors and Intendants of incorporated cities and towns in this State, may be removed from office for any of the causes specified in section one of this article, by the Circuit, City or Criminal Court of the county in which such officers hold their office, under such regulations as may be prescribed by law; *Provided*, That the right of trial by jury and appeal in such cases be secured.

4. The penalties in cases arising under the three preceding sections shall not extend beyond removal from office, and disqualification from holding office under the authority of this State, for the term for which he was elected or appointed; but the accused shall be liable to indictment and punishment as prescribed by law.

ARTICLE VIII.

SUFFRAGE AND ELECTIONS.

1. Every male citizen of the United States, and every male person of foreign birth who may have legally declared his intention to become a citizen of the United States before he offers to vote, who is twenty-one years old, or upwards, possessing the following qualifications, shall be an elector and shall be entitled to vote at any election by the people, except as hereinafter provided: First. He shall have resided in the State at least one year immedi-

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ately preceding the election at which he offers to vote. Second. He shall have resided in the county for three months, and in the precinct or ward for thirty days immediately preceding the election at which he offers to vote: *Provided*, That the General Assembly may prescribe a longer or shorter residence in any precinct in any county, or in any ward in any incorporated city or town having a population of more than five thousand inhabitants, but in no case to exceed three months; *And, provided*, That no soldier, sailor or marine, in the military or naval service of the United States shall acquire a residence by being stationed in this State.

2. All elections by the people shall be by ballot, and all elections by persons in a representative capacity shall be *viva voce*.

2. The following classes shall not be permitted to register, vote or hold office: First. Those who shall have been convicted of treason, embezzlement of public funds, malfeasance in office, larceny, bribery, or other crime, punishable by imprisonment in the penitentiary. Second. Those who are idiots or insane.

4. Electors shall in all cases, except treason, felony, or breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest during their attendance at elections, or while going to or returning therefrom.

5. The General Assembly shall pass laws, not inconsistent with the Constitution, to regulate and govern elections in this State, and all such laws shall be uniform throughout the State. The General Assembly may, when necessary, provide by law for the registration of electors throughout the State, or in any incorporated city or town thereof, and when it is so provided no person shall vote at any election unless he shall have registered, as required by law.

6. It shall be the duty of the General Assembly to pass adequate laws giving protection against the evils arising from the use of intoxicating liquors at all elections.

7. Returns of elections for all civil officers who are to be commissioned by the Governor, except Secretary of State, State Auditor, State Treasurer and Attorney-General, and for the members of the General Assembly, shall be made to the Secretary of State.

ARTICLE IX.

REPRESENTATION.

1. The whole number of Senators shall be not less than one-fourth, or more than one-third, of the whole number of representatives.

2. The House of Representatives shall consist of not more than one hundred members, who shall be apportioned by the General Assembly among the several counties of the State, according to the number of inhabitants in them respectively, as ascertained by the decennial census of the United States for the year eighteen hundred and eighty; which apportionment, when made, shall be subject to alteration until the first session of the General Assembly after the next decennial census of the United States shall have been taken.

3. It shall be the duty of the General Assembly, at its first session after the taking of the decennial census of the United States in the year eighteen hundred and eighty, and after each subsequent decennial census, to fix by

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law the number of Representatives and apportion them among the several counties of the State; *Provided*, That each county shall be entitled to at least one Representative.

4. It shall be the duty of the General Assembly at its first session after the taking of the decennial census of the United States in the year eighteen hundred and eighty, and after each subsequent decennial census, to fix by law the number of Senators and to divide the State into as many Senatorial Districts as there are Senators, which districts shall be as nearly equal to each other in the number of inhabitants as may be, and each shall be entitled to one Senator and no more; and which districts when formed, shall not be changed until the next apportioning session of the General Assembly after the next decennial census of the United States shall have been taken. No county shall be divided between two districts and no district shall be made of two or more counties not contiguous to each other.

5. Should the decennial census of the United States, from any cause, not be taken, or if when taken, the same as to this State is not full and satisfactory, the General Assembly shall have power, at its first session after the time shall have elapsed for the taking of said census, to provide for an enumeration of all the inhabitants of this State, and once in each ten years thereafter. upon which it shall be the duty of the General Assembly to make the appointment of Representatives and Senators as provided for in this article.

6. Until the General Assembly shall make an apportionment of Representatives among the several counties, after the first decennial census of the United States, as herein provided, the counties of Autauga, Baldwin, Bibb, Blount, Calhoun, Chilton, Cherokee, Choctaw, Clarke, Clay, Cleburne, Coffee, Colbert, Conecuh, Coosa, Covington, Crenshaw, Dale, DeKalb, Elmore, Etowah, Escambia, Fayette, Franklin, Geneva, Henry, Lauderdale, Marion, Morgan, Monroe, Marshall, Randolph, Sanford, Shelby, StClair, Walker, Washington and Winston shall each have one Representative; the counties of Barbour, Bullock, Butler, Chambers, Greene, Hale, Jackson, Jefferson, Limestone, Lawrence, Lowndes, Lee, Macon, Marengo, Perry, Pickens, Pike, Russell, Sumter, Talladega, Tallapoosa, Tuskaloosa, and Wilcox shall have each two Representatives; the county of Madison shall have three Representatives; the counties of Dallas and Montgomery shall have each four Representatives.

7. Until the General Assembly shall divide the State into senatorial districts, provided, the senatorial districts shall be as follows:

First district, Lauderdale and Limestone; second district, Colbert and Lawrence; third district, Morgan, Winston and Blount; fourth district, Madison; fifth district, Marshall, Jackson and DeKalb; sixth district, Cherokee, Etowah, and St. Clair; seventh district, Calhoun and Cleburne; eighth district, Talladega and Clay; ninth district, Randolph and Chambers; tenth district, Macon and Tallapoosa; eleventh district, Bibb and Tuskaloosa; twelfth district, Franklin, Marion, Fayette and Sanford; thirteenth district, Walker, Jefferson, and Shelby; fourteenth district, Greene and Pickens; fifteenth district, Coosa, Elmore and Chilton; sixteenth district, Lowndes and Autauga; seventeenth district, Butler and Conecuh; eighteenth district, Perry; nineteenth district, Choctaw, Clarke and Washington; twentieth

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district, Marengo; twenty-first district, Monroe, Escambia and Baldwin; twenty-second district, Wilcox; twenty-third district, Henry, Coffee, Dale and Geneva; twenty-fourth district, Barbour; twenty-fifth district, Pike, Crenshaw, and Covington; twenty-sixth district, Bullock; twenty-seventh district, Lee; twenty-eighth district, Montgomery; twenty-ninth district, Russell; thirtieth district, Dallas; thirty-first district, Sumter; thirty-second district, Hale; thirty-third district, Mobile.

ARTICLE X.

EXEMPTED PROPERTY.

1. The personal property of any resident of this State to the value of one thousand dollars, to be selected by such resident, shall be exempted from sale on execution, or other process of any court, issued for the collection of any debt contracted, since the thirteenth day of July, eighteen hundred and sixty-eight, or after the ratification of this Constitution.

2. Every homestead, not exceeding eighty acres, and the dwelling and appurtenances thereon, to be selected by the owner thereof, and not in any city, town or village, with the dwelling and appurtenances thereon, owned and occupied by any resident of this State, and not exceeding the value of two thousand dollars, shall be exempted from sale. on execution or any other process from a court, for any debt contracted since the thirteenth of July, eighteen hundred and sixty-eight, or after the ratification of this Constitution. Such exemption, however, shall not extend to any mortgage, lawfully obtained, but such mortgage or other alienation of such homestead, by the owner thereof, if a married man, shall not be valid without the voluntary signature and assent of the wife to the same.

3. The homestead of a family after the death of the owner thereof, shall be exempt from the payment of any debts contracted since the thirteenth day of July, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-eight, or after the ratification of this Constitution, in all cases, during the minority of the children.

4. The provisions of section one and two of this article shall not be so construed as to prevent a laborer's lien for work done and performed for the person claiming such exemption, or a mechanic's lien for work done on the premises.

5. If the owner of a homestead die, leaving a widow, but no children, such homestead shall be exempt, and the rents and profits thereof shall inure to her benefit.

6. The real or personal property of any female in this State, acquired before marriage, and all property, real and personal, to which she may afterwards be entitled by gift, grant, inheritance, or devise, shall be and remain the separate estate and property of such female, and shall not be liable for any debts, obligations, and engagements of her husband, and may be devised or bequeathed by her, the same as if she was a *femme sole*.

7. The right of exemptions hereinbefore secured, may be waived by an instrument in writing, and when such waiver relates to realty, the instrument must be signed by both the husband and the wife, and attested by one witness.

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ARTICLE XI.

TAXATION.

1. All taxes levied on property in this State, shall be assessed in exact proportion to the value of such property; *Provided, however,* The General Assembly may levy a poll tax not to exceed one dollar and fifty cents on each poll which shall be applied exclusively in aid of the public school fund, in the county so paying the same.

2. No power to levy taxes shall be delegated to individuals or private corporations.

3. After the ratification of this Constitution, no new debt shall be created against, or incurred, by this State or its authority, except to repel invasion, or suppress insurrection, and then only by a concurrence of two-thirds of the members of each house of the General Assembly, and the vote shall be taken by yeas and nays, and entered on the journals; and any act creating or incurring any new debt against this State, except as herein provided for, shall be absolutely void; *Provided;* The Governor may be authorized to negotiate temporary loans, never to exceed one hundred thousand dollars, to meet deficiencies in the treasury; and until the same is paid, no new loan shall be negotiated; *Provided, further,* That this section shall not be so construed as to prevent the issuance of bonds in adjustment of existing State indebtedness.

4. The General Assembly shall not have the power to levy, in any one year, a greater rate of taxation than three-fourths of one per centum on the value of the taxable property within this State.

5. No county in this State shall be authorized to levy a larger rate of taxation, in any one year, on the value of the taxable property therein than one-half one per centum; *Provided,* That to pay debts existing at the ratification of this Constitution, an additional rate of one-fourth of one per centum may be levied and collected, which shall be exclusively appropriated to the payment of such debts, or the interest thereon; *Provided, further,* That to any debt or liability now existing against any county, incurred for the erection of the necessary public buildings, or other ordinary county purposes, or that may hereafter be created for the erection of the necessary public buildings or bridges, any county may levy and collect such special taxes as may have been or may hereafter be anthorized by law, which taxes so levied and collected shall be applied exclusively to the purposes for which the same shall have been levied and collected.

6. The property of private corporations, associations and individuals of this State, shall forever be taxed at the same rate; *Provided,* This section shall not apply to institutions or enterprises devoted exclusively to religious, educational or charitable purposes.

7. No city, town or other municipal corporation, other than provided for in this article, shall levy or collect a larger rate of taxation, in any one year, on the property thereof, than one-half of one per centum of the value of such property, assessed for State taxation during the preceding year; *Provided,* That for the payment of debts existing at the time of the notification of this Constitntion, and the interests thereon, an additional rate of one per centum may be collected, to be applied exclusively to such indebtedness;

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And Provided, This section shall not apply to the city of Mobile, which city may, until the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-nine, levy a tax not to exceed the rate of one per centum, and from and after that time a tax not to exceed the rate of three-fourths of one per centum to pay the expenses of the city government, and may also, until the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-nine, levy a tax not to exceed the rate of one per centum, and from and after that time, a tax not to exceed the rate of three-fourths of one per centum, to pay the existing indebtedness of said city and the interest thereon.

8. At the first session of the General Assembly after the ratification of this Constitution, the salaries of the following officers shall be reduced at least twenty-five per centum, viz: Governor, Secretary of State, State Auditor, State Treasurer, Attorney-General, Superintendent of Education, Judges of the Supreme and Circuit Courts, and Chancellors; and after said reduction the General Assembly shall not have the power to increase the same except by a vote of a majority of all the members elected to each House, taken by yeas and nays, and entered on the journals; *Provided*, this section shall not apply to any of said officers now in office.

9. The General Assembly shall not have the power to require the counties or other municipal corporations to pay any charges which are now payable out of the State Treasury.

ARTICLE XII.

1. All able-bodied male inhabitants of this State, between the ages of eighteen years and forty-five years, who are citizens of the United States, or have declared their intention to become such citizens, shall be liable to military duty in the militia of the State.

2. The General Assembly, in providing for the organization, equipment, and discipline of the militia, shall conform as nearly as practicable to the regulations for the government of the armies of the United States.

3. Each company and regiment shall elect its own company and regimental officers; but if any company or regiment shall neglect to elect such officers within the time prescribed by law, they may be appointed by the Governor.

4. Volunteer organizations of infantry, cavalry, and artillery, may be formed in such manner, and under such restrictions, and with such privileges, as may be provided by law.

5. The militia and volunteer forces shall, in all cases, except treason, felony and breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest during their attendance at musters, parades, and elections, and in going to and returning from the same.

6. The Governor, shall, except as otherwise provided herein, be commander-in-chief of the militia and volunteer forces of the State, except when in the service of the United States, and shall, with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoint all general officers, whose term of office shall be for four years. The Governor, the Generals and regimental and battalion commanders, shall appoint their own staffs, as may be provided by law.

7. The General Assembly shall provide for the safe keeping of the arms, ammunition and accoutrements, military records, banners and relics of the State.

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8. The officers and men of the militia and volunteer forces shall not be entitled to, or receive, any pay, rations or emoluments, when not in active service.

ARTICLE XIII.

EDUCATION.

1. The General Assembly shall establish, organize and maintain a system of public schools throughout the State for the equal benefit of the children thereof, between the ages of seven and twenty-one years; but separate schools shall be provided for the children of citizens of African descent.

2. The principal of all funds arising from the sale or other disposition of lands or other property, which has been or may hereafter be granted or entrusted to this State, or given by the United States for educational purposes, shall be preserved inviolate and undiminished; and the income arising therefrom shall be faithfully applied to the specific objects of the original grants or appropriations.

3. All lands or other property given by individuals, or appropriated by the State for educational purposes, and all estates of deceased persons, who die without leaving a will or heir, shall be faithfully applied to the maintenance of the public schools.

4. The General Assembly shall also provide for the levying and collection of an annual poll tax, not to exceed one dollar and fifty cents on each poll, which shall be applied to the support of the public schools in the counties in which it is levied and collected.

5. The income arising from the sixteenth section trust fund, the surplus revenue fund, until it is called for by the United States government, and the funds enumerated in sections three and four of this article, with such other moneys, to be not less than one hundred thousond dollars per annum, as the General Assembly shall provide by taxation or otherwise, shall be applied to the support and maintenance of the public schools, and it shall be the duty of the General Assembly to increase, from time to time, the public school fund, as the condition of the Treasury and the resources of the State will admit.

6. Not more than four per cent. of all moneys raised, or which may hereafter be appropriated for the support of public schools, shall be used or expended otherwise than for the payment of teachers, employed in such schools; *Provided*, that the General Assembly may, by a vote of two-thirds of each house, suspend the operation of this section.

7. The supervision of the public schools shall be vested in a Superintendent of Education, whose powers, duties, term of office and compensation shall be fixed by law. The Superintendent of Education shall be elected by the qualified voters of the State in such manner and at such time as shall be provided by law.

8. No money raised for the support of the public schools of the State, shall be appropriated to or used for the support of any sectarian or denominational school.

9. The State University and the Agricultural and Mechanical College shall each be under the management and control of a Board of Trustees. The Board for the University shall consist of two members from the con.

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gressional district in which the University is located, and one from each of the other congressional districts in the State. The Board for the Agricultural and Mechanical College shall consist of two members from the congressional district in which the College is located, and one from each of the other congressional districts in the State. Said Trustees shall be appointed by the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and shall hold office for a term of six years, and until their successors shall be appointed and qualified. After the first appointment each Board shall be divided into three classes, as nearly equal as may be. The seats of the first class shall be vacated at the expiration of two years, and those of the second class in four years, and those of the third class at the end of six years from the date of appointment, so that one-third may be chosen biennially. No trustee shall receive any pay or emolument other than his actual expenses incurred in the discharge of his duties as such. The Governor shall be *ex-officio* President and the Superintendent of Education *ex-officio* a member of each of said Boards of Trustees.

10. The General Assembly shall have no power to change the location of the State University or the Agricultural and Mechanical College as now established by law, except upon a vote of two-thirds of the General Assembly, taken by yeas and nays and entered upon the journals.

11. The provisions of this article and of any act of the General Assembly passed in pursuance thereof to establish, organize and maintain a system of public schools throughout the State, shall apply to Mobile county only so far as to authorize and require the authorities designated by law to draw the portion of the funds to which said county shall be entitled for school purposes, and to make reports to the Superintendent of Education as may be prescribed by law. And all special incomes and powers of taxation, as now authorized by law for the benefit of public schools in said county, shall remain undisturbed until otherwise provided by the General Assembly; *Provided*, That separate schools for each race shall always be maintained by said school authorities.

ARTICLE XIV.

CORPORATIONS—PRIVATE CORPORATIONS.

1. Corporations may be formed under general laws, but shall not be created by special act, except for municipal, manufacturing, mining, immigration, industrial and educational purposes, or for constructing canals, or improving navigable rivers and harbors of this State, and in cases, where in the judgment of the General Assembly, the objects of the corporation cannot be attained under the general laws. All general laws and special acts passed pursuant to this section may be altered, amended and repealed.

2. All existing charters or grants of special or exclusive privileges under which a *bona fide* organization shall not have taken place and business been commenced in good faith, at the time of the notification of this Constitution, shall thereafter have no validity.

3. The General Assembly shall not remit the forfeiture of the charter of any corporation now existing, or alter or amend the same, or pass any general or special law for the benefit of such corporation, other than in execu-

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tion of a trust created by law or by contract, except upon the condition that such corporation shall thereafter hold its charter subject to the provisions of this Constitution.

4. No foreign corporation shall do any business in this State without having at least one known place of business and an authorized agent or agents therein, and such corporation may be sued in any county where it does business by service of process upon an agent anywhere in this State.

5. No corporation shall engage in any business other than that expressly authorized in its charter.

6. No corporation shall issue stock or bonds except for money, labor done, or money or property actually received; and all fictitious increase of stock or indebtedness shall be void. The stock and bonded indebtedness of corporations shall not be increased, except in pursuance of general laws, nor without the consent of the persons holding the larger amount in value of stock, first obtained at a meeting to be held after thirty days notice given in pursuance of law.

7. Municipal and other corporations and individuals invested with the privilege of taking private property for public use, shall make just compensation for the property taken, injured or destroyed by the construction or enlargement of its works, highways or improvements, which compensation shall be paid before such taking, injury or destruction. The General Assembly is hereby prohibited from depriving any person of an appeal from any preliminary assessment of damages against any such corporations or individuals made by viewers or otherwise; and the amount of such damages in all cases of appeal shall, on the demand of either party, be determined by a jury according to law.

8. Dues from private corporations shall be secured by such means as may be prescribed by law, but in no case shall any stockholder be individually liable otherwise than for the unpaid stock owned by him or her.

9. No corporation shall issue preferred stock without the consent of the owners of two-thirds of the stock of said corporation.

10. The General Assembly shall have the power to alter, revoke or amend any charter of incorporation now existing, and revocable at the ratification of this Constitution, or any that may hereafter be created, whenever, in their opinion, it may be injurious to the citizens of this State, in such manner, however, that no injustice shall be done to the incorporators. No law hereafter enacted shall create, renew or extend the charter of more than one corporation.

11. Any association or corporation organized for the purpose, or any individual shall have the right to construct and maintain lines of telegraph within this State, and connect the same with other lines, and the General Assembly shall, by general law of uniform operation, provide reasonable regulations to give full effect to this section. No telegraph company shall consolidate with or hold a controlling interest in the stock or bonds of any other telegraph company owning a competing line, or acquire, by purchase or otherwise, any other competing line of telegraph.

12. All corporations shall have the right to sue, and shall be subject to be sued, in all courts in like cases as natural persons.

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13. The term corporation, as used in this article, shall be construed to include all joint stock companies, or any associations having any of the powers or privileges of corporations not possessed by individuals or partnerships.

BANKS AND BANKING.

14. The General Assembly shall not have the power to establish or incorporate any bank or banking company, or moneyed institution, for the purpose of issuing bills of credit, or bills payable to order or bearer, except under the conditions prescribed in this Constitution.

15. No banks shall be established otherwise than under a general banking law, nor otherwise than upon a specie basis.

16. All bills or notes issued as money, shall be at all times redeemable in gold or silver, and no law shall be passed sanctioning, directly or indirectly, the suspension by any bank or banking company of specie payment.

17. Holders of bank notes and depositors who have not stipulated for interest, shall, for such notes and deposits, be entitled in case of insolvency, to the preference of payment over all other creditors.

18. Every bank or banking company shall be required to cease all banking operations within twenty years from the time of its organization, (unless the General Assembly shall extend the time,) and promptly thereafter close its business; but shall have corporate capacity to sue and shall be liable to suit until its affairs and liabilities are fully closed.

19. No bank shall receive directly or indirectly, a greater rate of interest than shall be allowed by law to individuals for lending money.

20. The State shall not be a stockholder in any bank, nor shall the credit of the State ever be given, or loaned, to any banking company, association or corporation.

RAILROADS AND CANALS.

21. All railroads and canals shall be public highways, and all railroad and canal companies shall be common carriers. Any association or corporation organized for the purpose shall have the right to construct and operate a railroad between any points in this State, and connect at the State line, with railroads of other States. Every railroad company shall have the right with its road to intersect, connect with, or cross any other railroad, and shall receive and transport, each, the others freight, passengers and cars, loaded or empty, without delay or discrimination.

22. The General Assembly shall pass laws to correct abuses and prevent unjust discrimination and extortion in the rates of freights and passenger tariffs on railroads, canals and rivers in this State.

23. No railroad or other transportation company shall grant free passes, or sell tickets or passes at a discount other than as sold to the public generally, to any member of the General Assembly, or to any person holding office under this State or the United States.

24. No street passenger railway shall be constructed within the limits of any city or town, without the consent of its local authorities.

25. No railroad, canal or other transportation company in existence at the time of the ratification of this Constitution, shall have the benefit of any future legislation, by general or special laws, other than in execution of a

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trust created by law or by contract, except on the condition of complete acceptance of all provisions of this article.

ARTICLE XV.

OATH OF OFFICE.

1. All members of the General Assembly, and all officers, executive and judicial, before they enter upon the execution of the duties of their respective offices, shall take the following oath or affirmation, to wit:

"I, ————————, solemnly swear, [or affirm, as the case may be] that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Alabama, so long as I continue a citizen thereof, and that I will faithfully and honestly discharge the duties of the office upon which I am about to enter to the best of my ability, so help me God." Which oath may be administered by the presiding officer of either House of the General Assembly, or any officer authorized by law to administer an oath.

ARTICLE XVI.

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.

1. No person holding an office of profit under the United States, except postmasters whose annual salary does not exceed two hundred dollars, shall during his continuance in such office, hold any office of profit under this State; nor shall any person hold two offices of profit at one and the same time under this State, except justices of the peace, constables, notaries public and commissioners of deeds.

2. It is made the duty of the General Assembly to enact all laws necessary to give effect to the provisions of this Constitution.

ARTICLE XVII.

MODE OF AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION.

1. The General Assembly may, whenever two-thirds of each house shall deem it necessary, propose amendments to this Constitution, which having been read on three several days, in each house, shall be duly published in such manner as the General Assembly may direct, at least three months before the next general election for Representatives, for the consideration of the people; and it shall be the duty of the several returning officers, at the next general election which shall be held for Representatives, to open a poll for the vote of the qualified electors on the proposed amendments, and to make a return of said vote to the Secretary of State; and if it shall thereupon appear that a majority of all the qualified electors of the State, who voted at said election, voted in favor of the proposed amendments, said amendments shall be valid, to all intents and purposes, as part of this Constitution, and the result of such election shall be made known by proclamation of the Governor.

2. No convention shall hereafter be held for the purpose of altering or amending the Constitution of this State, unless the question of Convention, or no Convention, shall first be submitted to a vote of all the electors of the State, and approved by a majority of those voting at said election.

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SCHEDULE.

In order that no injury or inconvenience may arise from the alterations and amendments made by this Constitutions to the existing Constitution of this State, and to carry this Constitution into effect, it is hereby ordained and declared, 1st. That all laws in force at the ratification of this Constitution and not inconsistent therewith, shall remain in full force, until altered and repealed by the General Assembly; and all rights, actions, prosecutions, claims and contracts, of this State, counties, individuals or bodies corporate, not inconsistent with this Constitution, shall continue to be valid as if this Constitution had not been ratified.

2. That all bonds executed by or to any officer of this State, all recognizances, obligations, and all other instruments executed to this State, or any subdivision or municipality thereof, before the ratification of this Constitution, and all fines, taxes, penalties and forfeitures due and owing to this State, or any subdivision, or any municipality thereof; and all writs, suits, prosecucutions, claims and causes of action, except as herein otherwise provided, shall continue aud remain unaffected by the ratification of this Constitution. All indictments which may have been found, or which may hereafter be found, for any crime or offense committed before the ratification of this Constitution, shall be proceeded upon in the same manner as if this Constitution had not been ratified.

3. That all the executive and judicial officers, and all other officers in this State who shall have been elected at the election held in this State, on third day of November, eighteen hundred and seventy-four, or who may have been appointed since that time, and all members of the present General Assembly, and all that may hereafter be elected members of the present General Assembly, and all other officers holding office at the time of the ratification of this Constitution, except such as hold office under any act of the General Assembly, shall continue in office, and exercise the duties thereof until their respective terms shall expire, as provided by the present Constitution and laws of this State.

4. This Constitution shall be submitted to the qualified electors of this State for ratification or rejection, as authorized and required by an act of the General Assembly of this State, entitled "An act to provide for the calling of a Convention to revise and amend the Constitution of this State," approved nineteenth day of March, A. D., eighteen hundred and seventy-five.

6. That instead of the publication as required by section twelve of said Act, the Governor of the State, is hereby authorized to take such steps as will give general publicity and circulation to this Constitution in an as economical manner as practicable.

7. That all laws requiring an enumeration of the inhabitants of this State during the year eighteen hundred and seventy-five, are hereby avoided.

8. That the Board of Education of this State is hereby abolished.

9. The salaries of the Executive and Judicial and all other officers of this State who may be holding office at the time of the ratification of this Constitution, and the pay of the present members of the General Assembly, shall not be affected by the provisions of this Constitution.

LEROY POPE WALKER, President.

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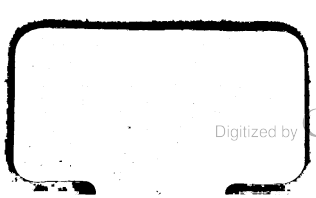
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